



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	GOLETA, CA	Accident Number:	LAX85FA325
Date & Time:	07/23/1985, 0307 PDT	Registration:	N11490
Aircraft:	CESSNA 150L	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Fatal

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

Analysis

AT 0242 PDT, THE STUDENT PLT TRIED TO CALL THE TOWER FOR A RADIO CHECK. THE TOWER WAS CLOSED, BUT A FSS SPECIALIST HEARD THE TRANSMISSION & PROVIDED ADVISORIES. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE STUDENT PLT TOOK OFF WITH A PASSENGER ABOARD. SHORTLY, AFTER TAKEOFF, THE ACFT CRASHED ON RWY 25 & BURNED. AN EXAM OF THE WRECKAGE REVEALED THERE WAS LITTLE MOVEMENT OF THE ACFT AFTER IMPACT. NO PREIMPACT PART FAILURE OR MALFUNCTION WAS FND, BUT THE ACFT WAS EXTENSIVELY DAMAGED BY FIRE. TOXICOLOGY TESTS SHOWED THE BLOOD/ALCOHOL LEVELS OF THE PLT & PASSENGER WERE 0.12 & 0.13 GRAMS PERCENT (0.12% & 0.13%), RESPECTIVELY. AN INSTRUCTOR PLT STATED THAT THE STUDENT HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY NIGHT FLYING INSTRUCTIONS.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) JUDGMENT - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) IMPAIRMENT(ALCOHOL) - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) OVERCONFIDENCE IN PERSONAL ABILITY - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) LACK OF RECENT EXPERIENCE IN TYPE OPERATION - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (F) PROCEDURES/DIRECTIVES - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
7. (C) AIRSPEED - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
8. (C) STALL - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	28, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	04/24/1985
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	17 hours (Total, all aircraft), 17 hours (Total, this make and model), 5 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N11490
Model/Series:	150L 150L	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	15075457
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	06/13/1985, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1600 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-200-A
Registered Owner:	GENE R. KELLEY	Rated Power:	100 hp
Operator:	U.C. SANTA BARBARA FLYING CLUB	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SBA, 10 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0315 PDT	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	7 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	70°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	17° C / 13° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0306 PDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	SANTA BARBARA (SBA)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	10 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	25	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	6049 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	AUDREY M SCHUTTE	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	JIM DUGAN; VAN NUYS, CA		
Publish Date:			
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).