



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	COLLEGE STATION, TX	Accident Number:	FTW84FA125
Date & Time:	02/02/1984, 2024 CST	Registration:	N93401
Aircraft:	CESSNA 152	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PLT HAD RECEIVED A TELEPHONE WX BRIEFING AT 1610 & AN IN-PERSON WX BRIEFING AT 1932, ABOUT 45 MIN BEFORE TAKEOFF. THE LOCAL WX DETERIORATED CONSIDERABLY BETWEEN THE LAST BRIEFING & THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT. THE ACFT DEPARTED AT 2016, & AT 2024 THE ACFT IMPACTED IN A GRAVEL QUARRY IN A 90 DEG NOSE DOWN ATTITUDE. THE ACCIDENT LOCATION WAS ABOUT 800 YDS WNW OF THE COLLEGE STATION VORTAC, 3 MI WEST OF COLLEGE STATION. AN ARRIVING PLT REPORTED THAT HE OBSERVED A SOLID CLOUD/DECK FROM 1 MI EAST OF THE VORTAC EXTENDING WESTWARD WITH GROUND FOG THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THE AREA. THERE WERE NO ENTRIES IN THE PLT'S LOGBOOK FOR THE 90 DAYS PRECEDING THE ACCIDENT. THE INCREASED FOG WAS DUE TO A LOCAL UNFORCAST CONDITION ATTRIBUTED TO 'RIVER EFFECT' FROM THE BRAZOS RIVER.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER

Phase of Operation: CLIMB

Findings

1. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - LOW CEILING
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - FOG
4. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - OBSCURATION
5. (F) WEATHER EVALUATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
6. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: CLIMB

Findings

7. (C) AIRCRAFT HANDLING - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
8. (C) SPATIAL DISORIENTATION - PILOT IN COMMAND
9. (F) LACK OF TOTAL INSTRUMENT TIME - PILOT IN COMMAND
10. (F) LACK OF RECENT TOTAL EXPERIENCE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	22, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	02/07/1983
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	121 hours (Total, all aircraft), 51 hours (Total, this make and model), 92 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N93401
Model/Series:	152 152	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Utility	Serial Number:	15285480
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	01/07/1984, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1670 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	7 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	510 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-235-L2C
Registered Owner:	ACE AVIATION	Rated Power:	110 hp
Operator:	ACE AVIATION	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Unknown	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	CLL, 319 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	3 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2026 CST	Direction from Accident Site:	90°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Partial Obscuration / 0 ft agl	Visibility	0 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	290°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	13° C / 12° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	SAN MARCOS, TX (T98)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	2012 CST	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	EASTERWOOD FLD (CLL)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	319 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	28	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5160 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	WARREN V WANDEL	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:			
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](#).