



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	NOVATO, CA	Accident Number:	LAX82DA286
Date & Time:	08/01/1982, 1410 PDT	Registration:	N5440J
Aircraft:	CESSNA 172N	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PILOT LANDED ON RUNWAY 31 WITH A LEFT CROSSWIND. WHILE LANDING, THE AIRCRAFT WENT OFF THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE RUNWAY AND NOSED OVER IN A DRAINAGE DITCH. THE PILOT ESTIMATED THAT THE WIND WAS FROM 220 DEG AT 10 KTS. THE OFFICIAL OBSERVATION AT OAKLAND, CA REPORTED THAT THE WIND WAS FROM 200 DEG AT 8 KTS.

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 - ON GROUND/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CROSSWIND
2. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (C) GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - NOT CORRECTED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

6. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - DITCH

Occurrence #3: NOSE OVER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	20, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	05/13/1981
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	89 hours (Total, all aircraft), 12 hours (Total, this make and model), 41 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N5440J
Model/Series:	172N 172N	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	17273796
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	91 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	961 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-H2AD
Registered Owner:	ROBERT CHAO	Rated Power:	160 hp
Operator:	ROBERT CHAO	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	OAK, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	29 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1355	Direction from Accident Site:	135°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	25 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	200°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	66° C / 0° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	SAN CARLOS, CA (SQL)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	DENVER, CO (DEN)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1315	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	GNOSS FIELD (056)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	0 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	31	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:	3300 ft / 60 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Report Date:	08/01/1983
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/ .	

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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](#).