



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Traverse City, MI	Accident Number:	CHI04LA026
Date & Time:	11/01/2003, 1552 EST	Registration:	N515KH
Aircraft:	Master Donald C BD5B	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The airplane was destroyed when it impacted the terrain during landing approach. The airplane came to rest about 1,000 feet short of the intended landing runway. According to the air traffic controller (ATC), the pilot taxied and called for departure at 1543. The airplane was cleared for takeoff and was to maintain a southwest heading after takeoff. The controller stated that the pilot called to return to the field at 1545. The controller asked the pilot if anything was wrong, because of the brief duration of the flight. The controller stated that at this time the pilot reported no problems. At 1546, the airplane was cleared to land. At 1547, the pilot indicated a gear problem and requested to circle the field. At 1550, the pilot informed the controller that "everything looks ok." The airplane was again cleared to land. At 1552, the airplane crashed approximately 1/2 mile south of runway 36. No pre-impact defects were found with respect to the aircraft during a post-accident examination. The reported winds were from 090 degrees at 5 knots.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot in command not maintaining control of the aircraft during the final approach.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

Findings
1. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Findings
2. TERRAIN CONDITION - GROUND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	50
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	180 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Master Donald C	Registration:	N515KH
Model/Series:	BD5B	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Christopher S. Wood	Engine Manufacturer:	Honda
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	CX500
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	TVC, 624 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 4000 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots / , 90°
Temperature:	6°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Traverse City, MI (TVC)	Destination:	(TVC)

Airport Information

Airport:	CHERRY CAPITAL (TVC)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	36	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	5107 ft / 150 ft		

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
Latitude, Longitude:	44.741389, -85.582222		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): John M Brannen

Adopted Date: 12/03/2004

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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