



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Riverside, CA	Accident Number:	LAX04LA199
Date & Time:	05/01/2004, 0955 PDT	Registration:	N195AF
Aircraft:	Cessna 195	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The airplane veered off the runway and impacted a ditch during the landing roll. The pilot had completed 10 three-point practice touch-and-go takeoff and landings without mishap, and was attempting his last landing of the day. During the landing roll, the airplane drifted off the centerline to the right. The pilot attempted to counteract the drift by applying left rudder pressure. The airplane continued to veer in a right arc off the side of the runway and encountered a ditch. The airplane impacted terrain, pushing the engine into the firewall and forcing the cockpit floor upward. The pilot reported no mechanical malfunctions with the airplane prior to impact. Later, the pilot stated that the factors that he thought contributed to the accident were a quartering right tailwind, lack of left tail wheel steering, impeded rudder control, pilot error/lack of experience for not attempting to steer via the use of differential braking, and the presence of a ditch in close proximity to the runway. He reported that there was a 4-knot right quartering tailwind from 070 degrees. A Federal Aviation Administration inspector examined the airplane and found no evidence of a malfunction or failure with the brake, control, or ground steering systems. The accident flight was the pilot's first solo flight in the make and model, although he had previously accumulated about 140 hours in the same make and model.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the pilot's failure to maintain directional control, resulting in a veer off the runway and collision with terrain.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - ENCOUNTERED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

3. TERRAIN CONDITION - DITCH

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	39
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	195 hours (Total, all aircraft), 143 hours (Total, this make and model), 17 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N195AF
Model/Series:	195	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Frederick W. Murdock III	Engine Manufacturer:	Jacobs
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	R755-B2
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:	RAL, 818 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	4 knots / , 300°
Temperature:	28° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Riverside, CA (RAL)	Destination:	Riverside, CA (RAL)

Airport Information

Airport:	Riverside Municipal Airport (KRAL)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	27	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	5401 ft / 100 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	33.951667, -117.445000		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Jeff Rich

Adopted Date: 04/28/2005

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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