



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: BILLINGS, Montana Accident Number: DEN84LA078

Date & Time: January 30, 1984, 13:30 Local Registration: N6741H

Aircraft: PIPER J3C-65 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 1 Minor, 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

THE PLT STATED THAT DURING TAKEOFF A GUST OF WIND BLEW THE ACFT TO THE RIGHT AND HE DECIDED TO ABORT THE TAKEOFF. DURINGTHE ABORT THE ACFT DEPARTED THE RWY, WENT DOWN A BANK AND CAME TO REST UPSIDE DOWN.

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: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CROSSWIND

2. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

- 3. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS INADEQUATE PILOT IN COMMAND
- 4. (C) ABORTED TAKEOFF PERFORMED PILOT IN COMMAND
- 5. (C) GROUND LOOP/SWERVE NOT CORRECTED PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: NOSE OVER

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

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Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	17,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Center
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medicalno waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 15, 1983
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	137 hours (Total, all aircraft), 115 hours (Total, this make and model), 69 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 23 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N6741H
Model/Series:	J3C-65 J3C-65	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	19952
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel; High skid	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	January 19, 1984 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1220 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	1 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2982 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated	Engine Model/Series:	C-65
Registered Owner:	THOMAS ADAMS, JR.	Rated Power:	65 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	1

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	BIL ,3606 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	13:25 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 10000 ft AGL	Visibility	50 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 20000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	13 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	220°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	5°C / -4°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	N/A - None - Haze		
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	BUTTE , MT (BTM)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	13:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	BILLINGS LOGAN BIL	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	3606 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	27R	IFR Approach:	SDF
Runway Length/Width:	10500 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	45.649288,-108.379425(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Winningham, Fred
Additional Participating Persons:	
Original Publish Date:	
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=16327

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 United States Code section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 United States Code section 1154(b) is available here.

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