



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	RENO, Nevada	Accident Number:	LAX93LA023
Date & Time:	November 1, 1992, 11:45 Local	Registration:	N3722Z
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-22-150	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PILOT AND PASSENGER WERE PARTICIPATING IN A FLOUR BOMBING AND POWER OFF SPOT LANDING CONTEST. AFTER COMPLETING THE FLOUR BOMBING EVENT THE PILOT ENTERED A LEFT DOWNWIND TO LAND ON A NORTH RUNWAY. THE SURFACE WINDS WERE FROM THE WEST AT 10 MPH, GUSTING TO 20 MPH WITH ASSOCIATED DOWNDRAFTS OFF OF THE RIDGE WEST OF THE AIRPORT. THE AIRPLANE OVERSHOT THE FINAL APPROACH COURSE WHILE AT A LOW ALTITUDE AND SLOW AIRSPEED. THE PILOT APPLIED POWER, BUT CONTINUED TO INCREASE THE BANK. THE WING STALLED AND THE AIRPLANE CRASHED.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S POORLY PLANNED APPROACH, INADEQUATE COMPENSATION FOR THE EXISTING WINDS, AND FAILURE TO MAINTAIN AIRSPEED. CONTRIBUTING TO THIS ACCIDENT WAS THE PILOT'S LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE AND INADVERTENT STALL.

Findings

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

- Findings
1. (C) PLANNED APPROACH - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND

2. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) AIRSPEED - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) STALL - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	27, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 1, 1991
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	159 hours (Total, all aircraft), 69 hours (Total, this make and model), 122 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 33 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N3722Z
Model/Series:	PA-22-150 PA-22-150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	22-7596
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	December 9, 1991 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	71 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2514 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A
Registered Owner:	NELSON, KEVIN	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	NELSON, KEVIN	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	30 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots / 20 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	250°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	11:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	NEVADA FLYERS NV18	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	4600 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	34	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4600 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	39.91048,-119.679565(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Llorente, A.

Additional Participating Persons: PMI DONALD MORGAN; RENO , NV

Original Publish Date: September 14, 1993

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=27853>

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