



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	VAN NUYS, California	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX98LA078
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	January 27, 1998, 12:30 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N7921S
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Bellanca 8KCAB	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

While on the takeoff roll the aircraft pulled hard to the left and the pilot counteracted with full right rudder. The aircraft departed the runway, crossed a grass area and a taxiway, and continued to a ramp area. The pilot was unable to stop the accident aircraft from impacting two parked aircraft. Winds at the time were from 090 degrees at 7 knots. The aircraft was examined on-scene and no mechanical difficulties were noted with the brakes. Flight control continuity was established on scene.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The student pilot's inadequate compensation for the existing crosswind condition and failure to maintain directional control. A related factor was the crosswind.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

### Findings

1. WEATHER CONDITION - CROSSWIND
2. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: COLLISION BETWEEN AIRCRAFT (OTHER THAN MIDAIR)  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ABORTED

Findings

4. OBJECT - AIRCRAFT PARKED/STANDING

## Factual Information

On January 27, 1998, at 1230 hours Pacific standard time, a Bellanca 8KCAB, N7921S, veered off runway 16R on a midfield takeoff and struck several parked aircraft at the Van Nuys, California, airport. The aircraft, on lease back to AV-8, a fixed based operator at the airport, sustained substantial damage. The student pilot/owner was not injured. Visual meteorological conditions existed for the local instructional flight and no flight plan was filed. Winds reported at the time of the accident were 090 degrees at 7 knots.

The pilot reported that he had been given permission to taxi to runway 16R via taxiway 10G and cleared for takeoff. The pilot stated that on the takeoff roll everything was normal. The tail wheel came off the ground and the main landing gear started to depart the ground. He reported that the aircraft pulled hard to the left; he countered with full right rudder, but the aircraft continued to pull to the left. The aircraft departed the runway, crossed a grass area and a taxiway, and continued to the north ramp. The pilot stated that he was unable to stop the aircraft from impacting a Beech and a Cessna aircraft.

The aircraft was examined by a Federal Aviation Administration airworthiness inspector from the Van Nuys Flight Standards District Office. No mechanical difficulties were noted with the brakes, and flight control continuity was established on scene.

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Student	<b>Age:</b>	46, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	August 22, 1996
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	47 hours (Total, all aircraft), 26 hours (Total, this make and model), 4 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Bellanca	<b>Registration:</b>	N7921S
<b>Model/Series:</b>	8KCAB 8KCAB	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Aerobatic; Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	272-76
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	May 10, 1997 100 hour	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1800 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	83 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	1436 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>ELT:</b>		<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	AEIO-320-E1B
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	INVERTIBLE INC.	<b>Rated Power:</b>	150 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	WARREN E. LEAVITT JR.	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	VNY ,799 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>	12:20 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Scattered / 10000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	6 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	7 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	90°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	21°C / 7°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	N/A - None - Haze		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	(VNY)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	VFR
<b>Departure Time:</b>	12:30 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class D

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	VAN NUYS AIRPORT VNY	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	799 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	16R	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	8001 ft / 150 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	34.189838,-118.489929(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Cornejo, Tealeye
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	JAMES COUGHRAN; VAN NUYS , CA
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	June 21, 2000
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=30025">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=30025</a>

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