



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	SARASOTA, Florida	Accident Number:	MIA89LA116
Date & Time:	March 28, 1989, 08:45 Local	Registration:	N3122W
Aircraft:	BEECH B55	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE ACFT WAS TAKING OFF FROM THE ROUGH GRASS PRIVATE STRIP & WAS APCHG 70 MPH, WHEN THE RGT MAIN GEAR COLLAPSED. THE ACFT THEN VEERED INTO A CANAL WHICH PARALLELED THE RWY. WITNESSES STATED THE RGT GEAR APPEARED TO STRIKE A SUNKEN SPOT ON THE RWY JUST AS THE GEAR COLLAPSED. FAA PSNL EXAMINED THE ACFT & NOTED DAMAGE TO THE GEAR THAT WAS CONSISTENT WITH THE WITNESS OBSERVATIONS. ALL DAMAGE APPEARED TO BE IMPACT RELATED. THE 15-YR-OLD ACFT WITH 3125 AIRFRAME HRS HAD BEEN OPERATING FROM THIS ROUGH STRIP FOR THE PREVIOUS 10 YRS. THE GEAR HAD BEEN SUBJECTED TO HEAVIER THAN NORMAL LOADS. THE ACFT HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR AN ANNUAL INSPN IN ABOUT 3 DAYS.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: UNEVEN RUNWAY CONDITION (SUNKEN SPOT).

Findings

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

1. (C) AIRPORT FACILITIES, RUNWAY/LANDING AREA CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN

Occurrence #2: GEAR COLLAPSED
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

2. LANDING GEAR,MAIN GEAR - OVERLOAD

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	56, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 12, 1987
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	8500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3800 hours (Total, this make and model), 8500 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 40 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N3122W
Model/Series:	B55 B55	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	TC-1633
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 10, 1988 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5100 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	120 Hrs	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3125 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-E2
Registered Owner:	RUSTY PLUMBING, INC.	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:		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:	SRQ ,25 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	13 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	08:47 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	340°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	15 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	110°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24°C / 21°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	(60X)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	SARASOTA , FL (SRQ)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	08:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	GATOR CREEK 60X	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	25 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	36	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2400 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Bird, Ronald
Additional Participating Persons:	J. WILKEY; ST. PETERSBURG , FL
Original Publish Date:	June 28, 1991
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=32414

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