



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	LAWRENCE, Kansas	Accident Number:	MKC86LA047
Date & Time:	January 9, 1986, 03:00 Local	Registration:	N38127
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-32R-300	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Positioning		

Analysis

THE PLT STATED HE MISTOOK AN ICE AND SNOW COVERED AREA FOR A TAXIWAY AND TURNED OFF PAST THE ACTUAL TAXIWAY. THE ACFT STRUCK A SNOWBANK WHICH COLLAPSED THE NOSEGEAR. THE BLUE TAXIWAY LIGHT WAS OUT. THIS LIGHT MARKS THE EDGE OF TAXIWAY. THE TAXIWAY WAS FREE OF ICE AND SNOW MAKING IT EASILY DESTINGUISHABLE FROM THE SNOW AND ICE AT IT'S EDGES. THE PLT WAS VERY FAMILIAR WITH THE AIRPORT, HAVING FLOWN IN AND OUT OF THE AIRPORT ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS. A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN FORWARD SPEED AFTER LANDING IS REQUIRED BEFORE EXECUTING A TURN TO THE TAXIWAY.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

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

Findings

1. (C) TERRAIN CONDITION - SNOWBANK
2. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

3. (C) COMPLACENCY - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial	Age:	28, 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 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 15, 1985
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	4615 hours (Total, all aircraft), 350 hours (Total, this make and model), 4510 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 63 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N38127
Model/Series:	PA-32R-300 PA-32R-300	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	7780387
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	6
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 1, 1985 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3400 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	70 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	5217 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540K1G5D
Registered Owner:	PRIORITY AIR	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	On-demand air taxi (135)
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Night/dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	0°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	KANSAS CITY , MO (MKC)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	LAWRENCE , KS (3LA)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	02:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	LAWRENCE 3LA	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	834 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	1	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3900 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	39.020263,-95.210433(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Thorpe, Clint
Additional Participating Persons:	LOREN NEWTON; WICHITA , KS
Original Publish Date:	
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=34127

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