

RECORD OF ☒ VISIT ☐ CONFERENCE OR ☐ TELEPHONE CALL		TIME 1:30 PM	DATE 06/02/2016
NAME (S) OF PERSON (S) CONTACTED OR IN CONFERENCE AND LOCATION David A. Hardwick, Student Pilot, Operator of Aircraft		ROUTING	
		SYMBOL	INITIALS
Lawrence Schultz, FAA, ASI			
SUBJECT May 23, 2016, Accident at Lodi, CA Airport (103). N481TJ			
DIGEST On May 23, 2016, Pilot in Command (PIC), Mr. David A. Hardwick, around 8:30 am began his preflight inspection of his aircraft. After insuring the aircraft was safe for flight, Mr. Hardwick taxied his aircraft for take off at 9:30 am on runway R26. After takeoff to the north and at approximately 400 feet 6 minutes into the flight he began a right bank. During the maneuver he felt several little bumps and thought they were pockets of air. During this time he heard a boom sound and the engine quit running. In addition, he felt the seat shift to the left while banking. Mr. Hardwick made a successful landing without incident in a berm area north of the airport and inspected the aircraft. He inspected his fuel lines and could not find any issues with the fuel or lines. After his examination of the aircraft and ensuring the fuel lines were secured, he started the engine and validated all instruments and engine were operating correctly. PIC Hardwick again took off to return to the airport. While flying east to return to the airport (103) the seat shifted to the left and the engine quit again. Flying above East Wooden Road east towards the airport, his decision was to land on E. Wooden Road, however, a car traveling west was directly in his path and his decision was to bank left to land at the pastures just north of the airport. The aircraft entered a steep accent and struck the ground in the pasture north of E. Wooden Road.			
CONCLUSION, ACTION TAKEN, OR REQUIRED During the flights it is apparent that the movement of the seat to the left directly contacted the fuel line resulting in the starvation of fuel to the engine. Thus causing the engine to quit while flying. Owner and Mechanic replaced the propeller and started the engine. All instruments indicated the engine operated without any issues.			
DATE 06/02/2016	TITLE Aviation Safety Inspector, IIC	SIGNATURE 	

DIGEST (CONT)

The aircraft impacted the ground at an angle of approximately 50 degrees striking the left tip of the left wing causing the aircraft to spin coming to rest about 50 feet from the impact. Significant damage resulted from the impact.