



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	MILTON, WV	Accident Number:	NYC97LA156
Date & Time:	08/01/1997, 1650 EDT	Registration:	N80987
Aircraft:	Cessna 172M	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional

Analysis

The pilot stated that this was his first approach to a runway less than 100 feet wide. During the landing flare on the 40 foot wide runway, the airplane bounced several times, drifted to the left side of the runway, and struck a runway light. The pilot then aborted the landing and added nose-up pitch. The student pilot stated, 'I bled off all my airspeed and stalled the aircraft.'

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The student pilot's improper recovery from a bounced landing.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ABORTED

Findings

1. (C) RECOVERY FROM BOUNCED LANDING - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. STALL - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Factual Information

On August 1, 1997, approximately 1650 eastern daylight time, a Cessna 172M, N80987, was substantially damaged during an aborted landing at the Ona Airpark, Milton, West Virginia. The certificated student pilot was not injured. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the solo cross country flight that departed the Cincinnati Municipal-Lunken Field Airport, Cincinnati, Ohio. No flight plan was filed for the instructional flight conducted under 14 CFR Part 91.

During a telephone interview, the student pilot stated this was his first approach to a runway less than 100 feet wide. Runway 7 at Ona Airpark was 40 feet wide. In the landing flare, the airplane began to drift to the left side of the runway. The student pilot was unable to make adequate correction for the drift because the control yoke was blocked by a knee board that held navigation materials. As the aircraft continued to drift farther to the left, full power was applied to initiate a go-around. During the climb out, the student pilot used his right hand to raise the flaps to 20 degrees and became pre-occupied that he could not use full right yoke. The student pilot then glanced out the windshield and saw a windsock, mounted on a 30-35 foot high telephone pole, in front of the airplane. The student pilot pulled back on the yoke to avoid the telephone pole then "...bled off all of the airspeed and stalled the aircraft."

A Federal Aviation Administration Inspector, who interviewed the student pilot after the accident, stated that the airplane drifted off to the left side of the runway while landing, striking a runway light with the left main gear. The student pilot initiated a go-around, pitched the airplane to a very high angle of attack and continued to drift further to the left. As the student pilot started to retract the flaps, the airplane stalled, impacting the ground nose first. The airplane came to rest upright and a post crash fire was extinguished by airport personnel.

A witness to the accident stated that he saw the airplane bounce several times then drift off to the left side of the runway, striking several runway lights as it started to head for a 20 foot high telephone pole that had a wind sock attached to it. The witness then heard the engine being "fire walled" and the airplane pitched straight up, stall, and impact the ground.

A review of the student pilot's logbook revealed 28 hours of total flight experience; all in a Cessna 172. Attempts to have the pilot complete and return the required National Transportation Safety Board Pilot/Operator Aircraft Accident Report form 6120.1/2 were unsuccessful. The pilot reported there were no mechanical deficiencies with the airplane.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	37, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	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:	06/02/1997
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	28 hours (Total, all aircraft), 28 hours (Total, this make and model), 22 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N80987
Model/Series:	172M 172M	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	17266827
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	07/31/1997, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-320
Registered Owner:	JOHN W KARCH II	Rated Power:	160 hp
Operator:	WADE HESTER	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	HTS, 828 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	18 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1651 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	80°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	Variable	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	28° C / 14° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	CINCINNATI, OH (LUK)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(12V)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	ONA AIRPARK (12V)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	580 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	7	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3160 ft / 40 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	RANDI-JEAN KUKLA	Report Date:	06/21/2000
Additional Participating Persons:	DAVID L BURGESS; CHARLESTON, WV		
Publish Date:			
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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