



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	MCKINNEY, TX	Accident Number:	FTW89DPA01
Date & Time:	10/01/1988, 1200 CDT	Registration:	N151JS
Aircraft:	SHANNON J-BIRD	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Minor

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

Analysis

THE PLT RPRTD HE WAS MAKING A HIGH SPEED TAXI TEST OF HIS GYROPLANE AFTER INSTALLATION OF A DIFFERENT ENG & PROP. HE SAID THE GYROPLANE ENCTR D A BUMP ON THE RWY WHICH CAUSED IT TO BECOME AIRBORNE AT ABOUT 35 MPH (TAKEOFF SPEED WAS 45 MPH). HE ADDED POWER TO SLOW THE DSCNT BACK TO THE RWY, BUT THE GYROPLANE BOUNCED EVEN HIGHER TO ABOUT 6' AGL. IT THEN CONTACTED THE RWY NOSEWHEEL FIRST, ROLLED OVER & SUBSEQUENTLY CAME TO REST IN AN UPRIGHT POSITION WITH SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: MISCELLANEOUS/OTHER
Phase of Operation: TAXI

Findings

1. (C) AIRSPEED - EXCESSIVE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) AIRPORT FACILITIES, RUNWAY/LANDING AREA CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN
3. (C) FLIGHT CONTROLS - IMPROPER USE OF - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) LIFT-OFF - PREMATURE - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: HARD LANDING
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ABORTED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	50, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Gyroplane	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
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:	12/01/1987
Occupational Pilot:	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:		
Flight Time:	1603 hours (Total, all aircraft), 149 hours (Total, this make and model), 1511 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	SHANNON	Registration:	N151JS
Model/Series:	J-BIRD J-BIRD	Aircraft Category:	Gyroplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental	Serial Number:	001
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	02/27/1988, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	600 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	24 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	164 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	ROTAX
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	503
Registered Owner:	SHANNON J.E.	Rated Power:	50 hp
Operator:	SHANNON, JAY E.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	5 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	180°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	24° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0000	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	AERO COUNTRY (TX05)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	792 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Rough
Runway Used:	17	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2950 ft / 40 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JERRY E ROBERTS	Report Date:	11/28/1989
Additional Participating Persons:			
Publish Date:			
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident docket 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/ .		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).