



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Colo. Springs, CO	<b>Accident Number:</b>	DEN01LA158
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	09/02/2001, 0815 MDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N2575P
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Balloon Works Firefly 8B-15	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Minor
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Serious, 1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

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On September 2, 2001, approximately 0815 mountain daylight time, a Balloon Works Firefly 8B-15, N2575P, sustained minor damage during a hard landing near Colorado Springs, Colorado. The private pilot was not injured, but his passenger received a serious injury. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan had been filed for the personal flight being conducted under Title 14 CFR Part 91. The flight originated in Colorado Springs approximately 0745.

The following is based on a telephone interview with the pilot and the accident report he submitted. The pilot said he and his passenger were participating in the Colorado Springs Balloon Classic. They took off, leveled off at 1,000 feet, and flew south. The wind velocity increased to about 15 mph and the pilot decided to land. He chose a field in which two balloons had already landed. He briefed his passenger on the position to assume for a high wind landing. The pilot made a "stand up" landing, but a thermal caused the balloon to ascend about 30 to 40 feet. It touched down a second time and the pilot vented the envelope. According to the pilot, the "passenger's foot was out of position and twisted on impact." X-rays taken later indicated the ankle was fractured.

## Pilot Information

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<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	34, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Balloon	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	None None	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	07/01/2000
<b>Flight Time:</b>	131 hours (Total, all aircraft), 24 hours (Total, this make and model), 96 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Balloon Works	<b>Registration:</b>	N2575P
<b>Model/Series:</b>	Firefly 8B-15	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Balloon
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	F8B-436
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>		<b>Seats:</b>	
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	06/23/2001, Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	4 Hours	<b>Engines:</b>	0
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	198 Hours at time of accident	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	Philip L. Campbell	<b>Rated Power:</b>	
<b>Operator:</b>	Philip L. Campbell	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	COS, 6184 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>	0754	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 Miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	8 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	350°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.13 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	16°C / 11°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>			
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Colo. Springs, CO (NONE)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	0745 MDT	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class E

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Minor
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 Serious	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Serious, 1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Arnold W Scott
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Mark A Schofield; FAA Flight Standards District Office; Denver, CO
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	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 <a href="mailto:pubinquiry@ntsb.gov">pubinquiry@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .