



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Mena, AR	Accident Number:	DFW06CA153
Date & Time:	06/02/2006, 1530 CDT	Registration:	N950RM
Aircraft:	Piper PA-23-250	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

While executing a visual approach to runway 35, the 7,600-hour private pilot confirmed that the landing gear was extended. The pilot reported, that immediately after touching down on the 5,000-foot long, by 75-foot wide asphalt runway, he noticed a lower than usual nose attitude and applied aft pressure on the yoke which resulted in the airplane becoming airborne. The pilot added that "upon settling back onto the runway" the nose landing gear collapsed and the airplane veered to the left. According to a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) inspector, who examined the twin-engine airplane, the pilot "made a hard nose wheel landing which caused the airplane to bounce back into the air." The FAA inspector added that, "Upon another hard landing the nose wheel blew out and the left main gear collapsed." The pilot reported having accumulated approximately 300 hours in the same and model aircraft. The wind at the time of the mishap was reported as light and variable.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's improper landing flare resulting in a hard landing and his improper recovery procedures for a bounced landing.

Findings

Occurrence #1: HARD LANDING

Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

1. (C) FLARE - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. PORPOISE/PILOT-INDUCED OSCILLATION - ENCOUNTERED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) RECOVERY FROM BOUNCED LANDING - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: GEAR COLLAPSED

Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	73
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	7600 hours (Total, all aircraft), 300 hours (Total, this make and model), 7600 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N950RM
Model/Series:	PA-23-250	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Operator:	Ken McRee	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	TIO-540-CIA
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	FSM	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots / , Variable
Temperature:	29° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Brownfield, TX (Q26)	Destination:	Mena, AR (MEZ)

Airport Information

Airport:	Mena Intermountain Municipal (MEZ)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	35	Runway Surface Condition:	Unknown
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	34.545278, -94.202778		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Leah D Yeager	Adopted Date:	10/03/2006
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
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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