



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Lancaster, NY	Accident Number:	ERA09CA119
Date & Time:	01/01/2009, 0930 EST	Registration:	N2228L
Aircraft:	CESSNA 172SP	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

The student pilot was conducting his first solo flight and had performed two uneventful stop-and-go landings. As the airplane accelerated during the third takeoff, it began to veer to the left. The student pilot applied right rudder; however, the airplane contacted a snow bank located off the left side of the runway and nosed over, substantially damaging the airplane. The student pilot stated that the winds were calm and the ailerons were in a neutral position during the takeoff. He did not report any mechanical failures or malfunctions of the airplane.

Flight Events

Takeoff - Loss of control on ground
Takeoff - Runway excursion
Takeoff - Nose over/nose down

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The student pilot's failure to maintain directional control during takeoff. Contributing to the accident was the student pilot's lack of solo flight experience and the snow bank located off the left side of the runway.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Directional control-Not attained/maintained - C
Personnel issues-Experience/knowledge-(general)-(general)-Student pilot - F
Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Student pilot - C
Environmental issues-Physical environment-Terrain-Snowy/icy-Not specified - F

Student Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	47
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	86 hours (Total, all aircraft), 86 hours (Total, this make and model), 28 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	CESSNA	Registration:	N2228L
Model/Series:	172SP	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Bob Miller Flight Training, Inc.	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360L2A
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	BUF, 728 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Night/Bright	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	4 knots, 130°
Temperature:	-14° C / -16° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Lancaster, NY (BQR)	Destination:	Lancaster, NY (BQR)

Airport Information

Airport:	Buffalo-Lancaster Regional (BQR)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	26	Runway Surface Condition:	Snow
Runway Length/Width:	3200 ft / 75 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Luke Schiada	Adopted Date:	03/23/2009
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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