



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Honea Path, SC	Accident Number:	ERA11CA324
Date & Time:	06/03/2011, 0900 EDT	Registration:	N84572
Aircraft:	AERONCA 7AC	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Miscellaneous/other	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

The student pilot stated that he was conducting a solo cross-country flight in the tailwheel-equipped airplane. He landed uneventfully at the destination airport, which was equipped with a turf runway, and to which he had flown with his instructor the previous day. After landing, the student pilot taxied the airplane back to the end of the runway to take off. He stated that he applied power to begin the takeoff roll, and the airplane lifted off the ground around 50 miles per hour. The student pilot lowered the airplane's nose to gain airspeed, and the airplane contacted the runway before impacting trees on the right side of the runway. A postaccident examination of the airplane revealed substantial damage to the wing spar, and no mechanical malfunctions or anomalies were noted.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The student pilot's loss of control during the takeoff.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT) Miscellaneous/other (Defining event) Runway excursion
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Student Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	70, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	None	Last Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	59 hours (Total, all aircraft), 7 hours (Total, this make and model), 3 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	AERONCA	Registration:	N84572
Model/Series:	7AC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	7AC-3281
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1220 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	A&C65 SERIES
Registered Owner:	BLUE RIDGE SPORT FLIGHT LLC	Rated Power:	65 hp
Operator:	BLUE RIDGE SPORT FLIGHT LLC	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	AND, 782 ft msl	Observation Time:	0856 EDT
Distance from Accident Site:	16 Nautical Miles	Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:	280°	Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Temperature/Dew Point:	26°C / 19°C
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Calm	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	30.12 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Hendersonville, NC (0A7)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Honea Path, SC (NA)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0815 EDT	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Honea Path (NA)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	777 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	13	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3500 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic Pattern

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		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Ralph E Hicks	Adopted Date:	10/06/2011
Additional Participating Persons:	Joseph Pocher; FAA/FSDO; Columbia, SC		
Publish Date:	10/06/2011		
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=79292		

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.

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