



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Roanoke, TX	Accident Number:	CEN13LA041
Date & Time:	11/03/2012, 1040 CDT	Registration:	N985GE
Aircraft:	CESSNA 172S	Injuries:	2 Minor, 1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

The student pilot was returning from a solo cross-country flight at the time of the accident. He stated that the approach for landing was normal until he was on short final approach, when the airplane's landing gear struck an automobile that was being driven on a road that crossed near the approach end of the runway. The airplane subsequently landed hard and the nose and left main landing gear collapsed. The airplane veered off the right side of the runway before coming to rest in the grass. The student pilot stated that there were no malfunctions or failures with the airplane before it impacted the vehicle. The automobile driver reported that he had been to the airport before and was aware of the proximity of the road to the runway, describing the layout as "precarious." He noted that he did not see or hear the approaching airplane traffic before the accident. He said he was about halfway across the road, immediately north of the runway, when he first heard the airplane engine; the airplane impacted his car immediately afterward.

The displaced threshold for the landing runway was located about 140 feet from the approach end of the runway. The roadway that crossed the extended runway centerline was located about 25 feet from the approach end of the runway pavement, about 165 feet from the displaced threshold. Data indicated that the runway threshold was previously displaced 400 feet. Although the privately-owned airport was not required to maintain airport design standards established by the Federal Aviation Administration, the proximity of the roadway and the reduced runway threshold displacement did not provide any safety margin for approaching aircraft.

Flight Events

Approach-VFR pattern final - Miscellaneous/other
Approach-VFR pattern final - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
Approach-VFR pattern final - Loss of control in flight

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The student pilot's failure to maintain clearance from obstacles on the runway approach path. Contributing to the accident was the airport management's decision to relocate the runway displaced threshold, which did not provide an adequate safety margin for approaching aircraft, and the automobile driver's inadequate lookout for approaching aircraft before crossing the runway's approach path.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Descent/approach/glide path-Not attained/maintained - C
Personnel issues-Action/decision-Action-Incorrect action performance-Student pilot - C
Environmental issues-Physical environment-Object/animal/substance-Ground vehicle-Effect on

operation - F

Environmental issues-Operating environment-Airport facilities/design-(general)-Effect on operation - F

Student Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	43
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	45 hours (Total, all aircraft), 45 hours (Total, this make and model), 3 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	CESSNA	Registration:	N985GE
Model/Series:	172S	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Marcair Inc.	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-L2A
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	AFW, 722 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	3 knots, Variable
Temperature:	23°C / 16°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Graford, TX (F35)	Destination:	Roanoke, TX (52F)

Airport Information

Airport:	Northwest Regional (52F)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	17	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	3500 ft / 40 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	2 Minor	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Timothy Sorensen

Adopted Date: 01/30/2014

Investigation Docket: <http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=85494>

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