



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Watsonville, CA	Accident Number:	WPR13CA033
Date & Time:	11/02/2012, 1645 PDT	Registration:	N77227
Aircraft:	CESSNA 140	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that after a normal approach, he landed the tailwheel-equipped airplane on the main wheels (wheel landing). As the airplane decelerated during the landing roll, the pilot directed his attention inside of the cockpit and eased back pressure off of the control yoke. When the pilot redirected his attention outside, the airplane nosed down, and the propeller struck the ground; the airplane nosed over and came to rest inverted. During the accident sequence, the wings and empennage were substantially damaged. The pilot reported that there were no mechanical failures or malfunctions that would have precluded normal operation.

Flight Events

Landing-landing roll - Loss of control on ground
Landing-landing roll - Nose over/nose down

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The pilot's failure to maintain airplane control during the landing roll.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Pitch control-Not attained/maintained - C
Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	63
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	700 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	CESSNA	Registration:	N77227
Model/Series:	140	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Russell Ellingworth	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	C85 SERIES
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	WVI, 163 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Dusk	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Calm
Temperature:	18°C / 9°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	King City, CA (KIC)	Destination:	Watsonville, CA (WVI)

Airport Information

Airport:	Watsonville Municipal Airport (WVI)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	20	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	4501 ft / 149 ft		

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jefferey R Rich	Adopted Date:	02/27/2013
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=85512		

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