



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	BAYTOWN, Texas	Accident Number:	FTW91LA161
Date & Time:	September 14, 1991, 19:15 Local	Registration:	N5182U
Aircraft:	Barnes AX 7	Aircraft Damage:	None
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

ACCORDING TO THE PILOT, THE CREWMEMBER, AND WITNESSES, THE PILOT MADE A NORMAL APPROACH AND LANDING TO AN OPEN FIELD. THE BALLOON BOUNCED BACK UP ABOUT 10 FEET FOLLOWING THE INITIAL TOUCHDOWN. THE SECOND LANDING WAS ALSO NORMAL AND THE BASKET CAME TO REST IN AN UPRIGHT POSITION WITH THE ENVELOPE STILL INFLATED. THE CREWMEMBER STATED AFTER THE FIRST BOUNCE, SHE TENSED UP, AND ON THE SECOND TOUCHDOWN HER LEFT ANKLE FOLDED UNDER HER. SHE HAD PREVIOUSLY BROKEN THE SAME ANKLE IN A SKIING ACCIDENT. THERE WAS NO DAMAGE TO THE BALLOON AND NO INJURIES TO THE PILOT WHO WAS THE ONLY OTHER OCCUPANT.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE CREWMEMBERS IMPROPER POSTURE DURING LANDING WHICH LED TO A SERIOUS INJURY.

Findings

Occurrence #1: MISCELLANEOUS/OTHER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

1. (C) PROCEDURES/DIRECTIVES - NOT FOLLOWED - PASSENGER

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	51, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Balloon	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	None None	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	255 hours (Total, all aircraft), 224 hours (Total, this make and model), 6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Barnes	Registration:	N5182U
Model/Series:	AX 7 AX 7	Aircraft Category:	Balloon
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	114
Landing Gear Type:	Skid	Seats:	0
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	April 7, 1991 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1680 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	5 Hrs	Engines:	0 Unknown
Airframe Total Time:	26 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	NELSON, JACK H.	Rated Power:	
Operator:	NELSON, JACK H.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	20 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	160°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	27°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	18:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Straight-in

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 None	Aircraft Damage:	None
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	29.799297,-94.96994(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Wandel, Warren
Additional Participating Persons:	JACK JETTON; HOUSTON , TX
Original Publish Date:	March 31, 1993
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=23397

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