



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: REEDLEY, California Accident Number: LAX92LA364

Date & Time: August 26, 1992, 09:40 Local Registration: N72172

Aircraft: CESSNA 140 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

THE PILOT SAID THAT AFTER TOUCHDOWN ON RUNWAY 32 HE LOST DIRECTIONAL CONTROL OF THE AIRCRAFT AND IT VEERED OFF THE LEFT SIDE OF THE RUNWAY. AFTER DEPARTING THE PAVEMENT, THE AIRCRAFT NOSED OVER ON ITS BACK DUE TO EXCESSIVE USE OF THE BRAKES.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE FAILURE OF THE PILOT TO MAINTAIN DIRECTIONAL CONTROL OF THE AIRCRAFT DURING THE LANDING ROLL AND HIS EXCESSIVE USE OF THE BRAKES.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

- 2. LACK OF RECENT EXPERIENCE IN TYPE OF AIRCRAFT PILOT IN COMMAND
- 3. (C) GROUND LOOP/SWERVE INADVERTENT PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: NOSE OVER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings 4. (C) BRAKES(NORMAL) - EXCESSIVE - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	77,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 26, 1991
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	4500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 8 hours (Total, this make and model), 4500 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N72172
Model/Series:	140 140	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	9341
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 6, 1992 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	8 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	C-85-12
Registered Owner:	JOHN E. SNODGRASS	Rated Power:	85 Horsepower
Operator:	JOHN E. SNODGRASS	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

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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	7 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	130°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	22°C / -18°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:	FRESNO , CA (Q60)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(032)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	09:20 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	REEDLEEY MUNICIPAL 032	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	383 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	32	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3300 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	36.649436,-119.399993(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Rich, Jeff

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: September 14, 1993

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: Class

Note:

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=27744

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 United States Code section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 United States Code section 1154(b) is available here.

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