



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	COLUMBIA, California	Accident Number:	LAX97LA223
Date & Time:	June 25, 1997, 09:00 Local	Registration:	N4293N
Aircraft:	Cessna 140	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

While practicing short field landings, the student pilot made a hard landing and added power to correct the situation during the subsequent bounce. The aircraft veered left, departed the runway, impacted an airport perimeter fence, and subsequently nosed over.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the student pilot's failure to maintain directional control of the aircraft during a bounced landing recovery.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

1. (C) RECOVERY FROM BOUNCED LANDING - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

4. OBJECT - FENCE

Occurrence #3: NOSE OVER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Factual Information

On June 25, 1997, at 0900 hours Pacific daylight time, a Cessna 140, N4293N, veered off the runway, struck a perimeter fence, and nosed over while attempting a short field landing maneuver at the Columbia, California, airport. The aircraft, operated by Springfield Flying Service, was on a local instructional flight and sustained substantial damage. The student pilot, the sole occupant, was not injured. The flight departed Columbia airport at 0800 for the purpose of practicing landings. Visual meteorological conditions existed for the flight and no flight plan was filed.

In her written report, the student pilot reported that she was practicing a ". . . short field landing, bounced and was recovering [the aircraft] something went wrong [and] lost control ran off runway over taxiway into [the perimeter] fence."

The student was interviewed by an Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) inspector from the Fresno, California, Flight Standards District Office. The inspector said the student "described [the landing] as a hard landing after which she added power to smooth it out. . . the aircraft wanted to go left on its own. . . . She attempted to straighten it up, but before she could the airplane struck the airport perimeter fence and nosed over." The FAA inspector stated that the student pilot was questioned regarding short field landings and other flight maneuvers and answered all questions satisfactorily. He reported that he inspected the brakes and found no pre-existing anomalies.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	42,Female
Airplane Rating(s):	None	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 Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	January 25, 1996
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	87 hours (Total, all aircraft), 52 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N4293N
Model/Series:	140 140	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	13764
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	February 12, 1997 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1450 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	89 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6517 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-200A
Registered Owner:	SPRINGFIELD FLYING SERVICE	Rated Power:	100 Horsepower
Operator:		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:	SCK ,30 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	41 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	09:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	35°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	310°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	27°C / 13°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	(022)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	08:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	COLUMBIA 022	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	2118 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	17	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4675 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

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:	38.110973,-120.379821(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Cornejo, Tealeye
Additional Participating Persons:	JIM MURRAY; FRESNO , CA
Original Publish Date:	April 10, 1998
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=29820

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