



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	TUCSON, Arizona	<b>Accident Number:</b>	LAX97LA318
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	September 8, 1997, 10:30 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N2339W
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Beech A23A	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

## Analysis

The student pilot was returning to the originating airport from his first solo cross-country flight. He reported that the stall warning horn came on before the airplane touched down, about 30 feet past the numbers, then the plane bounced into the air about 10 feet. The student said he realized that the airplane was at too slow an airspeed, and he attempted to execute a go-around by adding full power. The airplane climbed to approximately 20 feet in the air, then the stall warning horn sounded again. The airplane then banked to the left and impacted the ground. The student said he did not believe that there were any mechanical malfunctions that may have contributed to the accident.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the student pilot's improper recovery from a bounced landing, and failure to maintain adequate airspeed during an attempted go-around, which resulted in a stall and impact with the terrain (runway).

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT  
Phase of Operation: GO-AROUND (VFR)

### Findings

1. (C) RECOVERY FROM BOUNCED LANDING - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

2. GO-AROUND - INITIATED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) AIRSPEED - NOT OBTAINED/MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) STALL - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

5. TERRAIN CONDITION - RUNWAY

## Factual Information

On September 8, 1997, at 1030 hours mountain standard time, a Beech A23A, N2339W, bounced into the air and subsequently drug the left wing on the runway after an unsuccessful go-around attempt at La Cholla Airpark, Tucson, Arizona. The aircraft was destroyed during the impact sequence, and the student pilot was not injured. The flight originated at La Cholla Airpark at an undetermined time. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the accident.

The flight was the first solo cross-country flight for the student pilot. The intended route of flight was La Cholla, Bisbee, Wilcox, and then back to La Cholla. The student pilot was interviewed by an FAA Operations Inspector on September 10, 1997. The inspector stated that the pilot reported that the stall warning horn came on before he touched down on the runway. The student pilot said he touched down about 30 feet past the "numbers" on the runway. After landing, the airplane bounced into the air about 10 feet. The student pilot said he realized that the aircraft was too slow and added full power to execute a go-around. He estimated that he was approximately 10 to 20 feet in the air when the stall warning horn went off again. The aircraft banked to the left and descended with the left wing hitting the ground first. The airplane went off the left side of runway 19. The student pilot said he did not believe that there were any mechanical malfunctions that may have contributed to the accident.

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Student	<b>Age:</b>	20, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	September 10, 1996
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	57 hours (Total, all aircraft), 54 hours (Total, this make and model), 21 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 26 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 12 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Beech	<b>Registration:</b>	N2339W
<b>Model/Series:</b>	A23A A23A	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	M938
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	February 16, 1997 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2350 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	95 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	1704 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Continental
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO-346
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	ALLEN PETERSON	<b>Rated Power:</b>	165 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	TUS ,2641 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	22 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	08:56 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	330°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	0°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	28°C / 17°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	WILCOX , AZ (P33 )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	VFR
<b>Destination:</b>	(40E )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	07:15 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	LA CHOLLA AIRPARK 40E	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	2940 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	19	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	4600 ft / 36 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	32.200328,-110.950248(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Childress, Debbie
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	STEVE D'VRSO; SCOTTSDALE , AZ
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	May 21, 1998
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=29898">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=29898</a>

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