



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Atlantic, Pennsylvania	Accident Number:	NYC07CA239
Date & Time:	September 25, 2007, 14:10 Local	Registration:	N39263
Aircraft:	Taylorcraft BC12-D	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

After completing the sale of the Taylorcraft BC-12D, the new owner, who was a private pilot, suggested to the previous student pilot owner that they fly the airplane. The student pilot got in the airplane and sat in the left seat and the private pilot occupied the right seat. After the student pilot did a preflight check and runup, they took off and joined the traffic pattern for landing. The approach was high. The airplane then touched down on the 2,000-foot grass strip and bounced. The student pilot initiated a go around; however, the airplane struck trees, decelerated, stalled, and then impacted the ground in a nose down attitude. The private pilot made no attempt to intervene.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

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

Findings
1. FLARE - MISJUDGED - UNQUALIFIED PERSON

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ABORTED

Findings

2. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - UNQUALIFIED PERSON

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ABORTED

Findings

3. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Factual Information

After completing the sale of the Taylorcraft BC-12D, the new owner, who was a private pilot, suggested to the previous student pilot owner that they fly the airplane. The student pilot got in the airplane and sat in the left seat and the private pilot occupied the right seat. After the student pilot did a preflight check and runup, they took off and joined the traffic pattern for landing. According to the private pilot, the approach was high. The airplane then touched down on the 2,000-foot grass strip and bounced. The student pilot initiated a go around; however, the airplane struck trees, decelerated, stalled, and then impacted the ground in a nose down attitude. The private pilot later stated that, the student pilot "was in command of the craft. I was just a passenger." He also stated that he would not have taken control without an "invitation" from the pilot in the left seat, and that this was a "rule" he had learned many years before.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	77, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	None Unknown	Last FAA Medical Exam:	October 1, 1996
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	470 hours (Total, all aircraft), 120 hours (Total, this make and model), 420 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Student pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	74, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 1, 2004
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	25 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Taylorcraft	Registration:	N39263
Model/Series:	BC12-D	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	6517
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	October 1, 2007 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2878.4 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	A-65-8
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	65 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	GKJ,1400 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	9 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	11:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	45°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	220°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.12 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	27°C / 18°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Atlantic, PA (NONE)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(NONE)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	12:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	41.500831,-80.348052

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Gunther, Todd
Additional Participating Persons:	Ron Horak; FAA/FSDO; Allegheny, PA
Original Publish Date:	November 29, 2007
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=66767

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