



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Caputa, South Dakota Accident Number: CEN14CA392

Date & Time: July 25, 2014, 20:00 Local Registration: N5530K

Aircraft: Bellanca 7GCBC Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Low altitude operation/event **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

Analysis

The flight instructor reported that the student pilot pushed the throttle about 3/4 of the way in during the takeoff roll, and did not add full power until about 1/2 way down the 1,500 foot grass airstrip. The airplane had not attained flying airspeed by the time it reached the end of the runway. The airplane became airborne, but it settled and impacted the terrain, which resulted in substantial damage to the fuselage and right wingtip. The flight instructor reported that there were no preaccident malfunctions or failures with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The student pilot's improper takeoff procedure and the flight instructor's failure to take control of the airplane and abort the takeoff.

Findings

Personnel issues Incorrect action performance - Student/instructed pilot

Personnel issues Lack of action - Instructor/check pilot

Aircraft Airspeed - Not attained/maintained

Factual Information

History of Flight

Initial climb	Low altitude operation/event (Defining event)
Initial climb	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Flight instructor Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	76
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Rear
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 1, 2014
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	October 1, 2013
Flight Time:	15000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 500 hours (Total, this make and model), 100 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 30 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Student pilot Information

Certificate:		Age:	
Airplane Rating(s):		Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):		Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:		Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	10 hours (Total, all aircraft), 10 hour	rs (Total, this make and model)	

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Bellanca	Registration:	N5530K
Model/Series:	7GCBC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1978	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	1026-78
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2000 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	0-320
Registered Owner:	WRIGHT THOMAS R	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	WRIGHT THOMAS R	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	RAP	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	13:52 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.94 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	26°C / 10°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Caputa, SD	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Caputa, SD	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	13:50 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	Private Airstrip XXX	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	3200 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	18	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	1500 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	43.977222,-102.981666(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Silliman, James
Additional Participating Persons:	Dan McKinney; FAA Rapid City FSDO; Rapid City , SD
Original Publish Date:	September 24, 2014
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=89752

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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