



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: Madison, South Dakota Accident Number: GAA18CA166

Date & Time: March 12, 2018, 17:15 Local Registration: N2011N

Aircraft: Cessna 140 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

### **Analysis**

The flight instructor, acting as a safety pilot, in the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, to expedite takeoff, he decided to take off from the grass runway instead of the concrete runway. He added that, about midway into the soft-field takeoff roll, he observed that the airplane was "struggling to build airspeed." He added that the runway had previously thawed and was "wet spongy sod." He reduced power and began to apply the brakes to abort the takeoff, but the airplane overran the runway, impacted a snow bank, and nosed over.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage.

The flight instructor reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions 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 flight instructor's delayed aborted takeoff on a soft, wet, grass runway, which resulted in a runway overrun.

# **Findings**

Personnel issues	Delayed action - Instructor/check pilot
Environmental issues	Soft surface - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	Wet surface - Effect on operation

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#### **Factual Information**

#### **History of Flight**

**Takeoff** Loss of control on ground (Defining event)

Takeoff-rejected takeoff Runway excursion

**Takeoff-rejected takeoff**Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Takeoff-rejected takeoff Nose over/nose down

#### **Flight instructor Information**

Certificate:	Flight instructor	Age:	30,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Lap only
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	December 29, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	January 22, 2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 10 hours (Total, this make and model), 418 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

### **Pilot-rated passenger Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Lap only
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Unknown	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

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### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N2011N
Model/Series:	140 UNDESIGNAT	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1947	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	12247
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	December 14, 2017 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1450 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1324 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	C91 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	C-85-12F
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	85 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:	KMDS,1716 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	21:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	8°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	310°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.36 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	0°C / 0°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Madison, SD (MDS)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Madison, SD (MDS)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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#### **Airport Information**

Airport:	MADISON MUNI MDS	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	1718 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Rough;Snow;Soft
Runway Used:	03	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2380 ft / 200 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:	44.012779,-97.086669(est)

#### **Administrative Information**

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Benhoff, Kathryn
Additional Participating Persons:	Dwight Pladsen; FAA; Rapid City, SD
Original Publish Date:	June 14, 2018
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=96890

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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