

# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location: Houston, TX Accident Number: DFW08CA051

Date & Time: 12/28/2007, 0830 CST Registration: N1458U

Aircraft: Cessna 172 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Injuries: 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

### **Analysis**

The private pilot was flying multiple visual patterns on a 40-foot wide asphalt runway. Winds were reported by the pilot as variable and gusting. The pilot stated that during the third touchand-go, the wind shifted to a crosswind with a tailwind component. While reconfiguring for takeoff, the pilot perceived a faster than normal groundspeed. A gust of wind contacted the airplane's tail pushing the nose to the left. The pilot attempted to correct back to centerline but was hesitant to input an aggressive correction due to the faster than normal groundspeed. The left main gear ran off the runway onto the grass and the airplane departed the left side of the runway. The nose gear sank into mud and was separated. The nose gear strut dug into the muddy terrain and the airplane nosed over coming to rest in the inverted position. On a NTSB Form 6120.1, the pilot reported that the accident could have been prevented with a more aggressive rudder input.

### **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. A contributing factor was prevailing crosswind.

#### **Findings**

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

**Findings** 

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CROSSWIND

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Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ABORTED

**Findings** 

2. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #3: NOSE GEAR COLLAPSED Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ABORTED

**Findings** 

3. LANDING GEAR, NOSE GEAR - SEPARATION

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Occurrence #4: NOSE OVER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

**Findings** 

4. TERRAIN CONDITION - MUDDY

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# **Factual Information**

#### **Pilot Information**

Certificate:	Private	Age:	46, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	05/01/2007
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	06/01/2006
Flight Time:	110 hours (Total, all aircraft), 45 hours (Total, this make and model), 70 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 7 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

# Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N1458U
Model/Series:	172	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	17267125
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-E2D
Registered Owner:	J & D Aircraft Llc	Rated Power:	150 hp
Operator:	MVP Aero Academy - Weiser Park	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 3000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots / 11 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	Variable	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.08 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	11°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	HOUSTON, TX (EYQ)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	CST	Type of Airspace:	

## **Airport Information**

Airport:	WEISER AIR PARK (EYQ)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	137 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	090	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3455 ft / 40 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Touch and Go; Traffic Pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	29.935000, -95.639444

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jason T Aguilera	Report Date:	01/31/2008
Additional Participating Persons:	Carl Thomas; FAA FSDO; Houston, TX		
Publish Date:			
Note:	This accident report documents the factua to the NTSB.	l circumstances of	this accident as described
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as investigations. Dockets released prior to June Record Management Division at <a href="mailto:pubmage">pubmagement Division</a> at <a href="mailto:pubmage">pubmagement Division</a> at <a href="pubmage">pubmagement Division</a> at <a href="pubmage">pubmage</a>	e 1, 2009 are public .gov, or at 800-877-	ly available from the NTSB's

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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.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available <a href="here">here</a>.

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