ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cessna 152, G-BPME

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1982

Date & Time (UTC): 28 April 2007 at 1527 hrs

Location: Southend Airport, Essex

Type of Flight: Training

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damage to nose landing gear, engine, engine frame and

propeller

Commander's Licence: Student pilot

Commander's Age: 38 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 21 hours (of which 21 were on type)

Last 90 days - 5 hours Last 28 days - 1 hour

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Synopsis

The aircraft was being flown by a student pilot on her second solo flight. During the landing the aircraft bounced twice and then the nose landing gear collapsed.

History of the flight

The student pilot flew a number of circuits with her instructor, which were completed satisfactorily. He then left the aircraft so that she could practise some solo circuits; this was her second solo flight. Runway 06, in use at the time, has an asphalt surface 1,605 m in length. The landing threshold is displaced by 174 m and there is a public road which crosses the undershoot, close to the touchdown end of the runway.

As the aircraft crossed over the road at around 50 ft the pilot felt the aircraft roll from side to side. She then felt that the aircraft was too fast although it had been trimmed for the approach at 65 kt. As she pulled back to flare the aircraft for landing the nose pitched up at a greater rate than she expected and she released the back pressure. The aircraft struck the runway surface and bounced. She tried to control the landing but the aircraft bounced again and then came to a stop.

The pilot said that at the time she could not remember what she should do if the aircraft bounced but remembered afterwards that she should have opened the throttle for a go-around.

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After the aircraft had stopped she selected the magnetos to 'OFF' and attempted to pull the mixture to 'idle cut off' but it was jammed. The fire service arrived and she vacated the aircraft.

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