

Cessna 152, G-BMJC

AAIB Bulletin No: 2/99 Ref: EW/G98/12/05 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cessna 152, G-BMJC

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

Year of Manufacture: 1981

Date & Time (UTC): 12 December 1998 at 1323 hrs

Location: Cambridge Airport, Cambridgeshire

Type of Flight: Private (Training)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Substantial to nose landing gear and propeller

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 54 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 123 hours (of which 86 were on type)
Last 90 days - 6 hours
Last 28 days - 2 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was a member of a flying club that required its members to maintain solo currency by flying at least every 21 days. Although he did not particularly want to fly on the day of the accident, he felt under some pressure to do so in order to maintain currency. The weather was forecast to be good with a surface wind of 230°/10 kt. The flight was initially uneventful, but after a short time the pilot's headset failed and he had to use the passenger headset and 'Press to Transmit' switch. He then encountered some light drizzle and decided to return to the airfield and land. On his initial approach to Runway 23, he was not lined up correctly and executed a go-around. The second approach was high and fast but by this time the pilot felt that the flight was becoming a 'chore' rather than a pleasure and felt compelled to land. The aircraft landed on all three wheels and bounced before contacting the runway nosewheel first at which point the nose wheel separated from the nose leg and the propeller struck the runway. The aircraft slid along the runway for some

distance before coming to a halt at which point the pilot and his passenger were able to evacuate without assistance.

The pilot considered that the cause of the accident was his inability to concentrate sufficiently on the landing because of the problems that he had encountered during the flight.