

Cessna A152 Aerobat, G-BOYB

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/2003	Ref: EW/G2003/07/18	Category: 1.3
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Cessna A152 Aerobat, G-BOYB	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1980	
Date & Time (UTC):	14 July 2003 at 1505 hrs	
Location:	Sywell Aerodrome, Northamptonshire	
Type of Flight:	Training	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - 1 (Minor)	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Nose gear collapsed, propeller bent and engine shock loaded	
Commander's Licence:	Student Pilot	
Commander's Age:	38 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	59 hours (of which all were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 14 hours	
	Last 28 days - 13 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

History of the flight

The student pilot was on a local solo training flight. On his return to the aerodrome he lined up for an approach to Runway 07 (grass). The surface wind was from 120° at 12 kt. The pilot reported that his approach was too steep and that he subsequently began the flare too high above the runway. He then applied power to prevent a stall and pushed forwards on the control yoke. An instructor saw the aircraft land heavily on its main wheels and then bounce up approximately 2 to 3 feet. On the second touchdown the aircraft hit the runway nose wheel first followed by the main wheels and then bounced again to a height of approximately 6 to 7 feet. On the third touchdown the aircraft hit nose wheel first again, followed by the main wheels and bounced up to approximately 10 feet. The instructor then reported seeing the aircraft descending in a steep nose down attitude and landing on its nose wheel at which point the nose gear collapsed. The aircraft skidded to a stop resting on its nose. The student pilot suffered minor grazing to one leg and to his shoulder but he exited the aircraft through the left door without difficulty.