

AAIB Bulletin No: 6/95

Ref: EW/G95/04/20

Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Grumman AA-5A Cheetah, G-NASH

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-E2G piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1978

Date & Time (UTC): 21 April 1995 at 1002 hrs

Location: Southampton (Eastleigh) Airport

Type of Flight: Private (Training)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damage to the nose landing gear and the propeller;
engine shock loaded

Commander's Licence: Student Pilot

Commander's Age: 44 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 66 hours (of which 65 were on type)
Last 90 days - 11 hours
Last 28 days - 11 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The student was conducting a solo circuit training detail on Runway 02, where the reported wind was 060°/8 kt, variable between 020° and 110°. She had completed two touch-and-go landings successfully but, on the third, the speed was a little high at the touchdown, which was firstly on the mainwheels then the nosewheel, and the aircraft bounced. Following the 10 foot bounce, the aircraft struck the ground nosewheel first and it is believed that the propeller also contacted the ground at this point. The aircraft then porpoised into a 20 foot bounce, rolled some 20°, yawed to the left and, despite power being applied, sunk onto the grass to the left of the runway. The throttle was then closed but the student was unable to prevent the aircraft ground looping through 180° to the right, whilst crossing the runway and coming to rest 60 to 70 metres on the other side of it.

There was no fire, but the Airport Fire Service attended the accident and helped the student to make the aircraft safe.