Piper PA-28-151, G-JAMP

AAIB Bulletin No: 6/2002	Ref: EW/G2002/04/06	Category: 1.3
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-28-151, G-JAMP	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-320-E3D piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1975	
Date & Time (UTC):	3 April 2002 at 1530 hrs	
Location:	White Waltham Airfield, Berkshire	
Type of Flight:	Training	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 2	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew -None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Minor damage to nose landing gear	
Commander's Licence:	Commercial Pilots Licence with Instrument Rating	
Commander's Age:	27 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	830 hours (of which 600 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 100 hours	
	Last 28 days - 30 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot.	

The aircraft was being flown by a student pilot, with 8 hours flying experience, who was under instruction. The weather at the time was CAVOK with a wind of 150°/13 kt and the purpose of the lesson was to carry out left hand circuits at the airfield using runway 11. The three previous circuits had been completed satisfactorily but, during the fourth approach and landing, the student overflared. This caused the aircraft to 'balloon', after which the airspeed rapidly decayed as the aircraft regained height. In a frank report made by the flying instructor, he stated that both he and the student misjudged the height at the flare, thinking they were lower than they actually were. This resulted in the aircraft landing on the nose and main landing gears at the same time, about 1/3 of the way down the runway from the threshold. On landing, the nose wheel structure deformed, allowing the propeller to make light contact with the runway, but this did not result in any significant damage to the propeller. The aircraft vacated the runway to the right, using nose wheel steering, but as it was considered unsafe to continue the taxi and the aircraft was shut down.