ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-28-151 Cherokee Warrior, G-BTNT

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-D3G piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1976 (Serial no: 28-7615401)

Date & Time (UTC): 9 September 2012 at 1044 hrs

Location: Cranfield Airfield, Bedfordshire

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 and propeller

Commander's Licence: Student pilot

Commander's Age: 44 years

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

Last 90 days - 21 hours Last 28 days - 10 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot,

occurrence report by Cranfield ATC

The student pilot completed four visual circuits with her instructor before being cleared for a first solo flight. Runway 21 was in use, with fine weather and a surface wind from 190° at 13 kt. The student pilot took off to fly a normal circuit and was preparing to land. She described her final approach as steady and stable at about 75 kt, with speed reducing as she approached the runway threshold. She reduced power to idle and started a flare, but the aircraft landed firmly and bounced, pitching nose-down. The student was unable to control the aircraft's oscillatory motion but concentrated on keeping the aircraft wings level until it came to a stop. She was

advised by ATC to shut down on the runway and await assistance.

ATC reported that the aircraft had appeared slightly slower over the threshold than before, but not excessively so. It appeared to land firmly and bounce twice, before settling heavily on the runway. The student's flying training organisation commented that the conditions were ideal for a first solo flight and that the event was entirely unexpected, given the student's previous training and progress.

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