

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
199603044**

**Cessna Aircraft Company
Skyhawk**

23 September 1996

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NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at www.atsb.gov.au.

The Bureau did not conduct an on scene investigation of this occurrence. The information presented below was obtained from information supplied to the Bureau.

Occurrence Number: 199603044	Occurrence Type: Accident
Location: Charleville, Aerodrome	
State: QLD	Inv Category: 4
Date: Monday 23 September 1996	
Time: 1315 hours	Time Zone: EST
Highest Injury Level: None	

Aircraft Manufacturer: Cessna Aircraft Company	
Aircraft Model: 172N	
Aircraft Registration: VH-EIB	Serial Number: 17271742
Type of Operation: Non-commercial Business	
Damage to Aircraft: Substantial	
Departure Point: Quilpie QLD	
Departure Time: 1215 EST	
Destination: Charleville QLD	

Crew Details:

Role	Class of Licence	Hours on	
		Type	Hours Total
Pilot-In-Command	Private	1500.0	1500

Approved for Release: Thursday, September 26, 1996

The pilot reported that he had flown a normal circuit and approach to land on runway 30. He did not monitor the airspeed adequately on the approach, with the result that the aircraft began to stall at about 10 feet above the runway. Power was applied to correct the descent, however the aircraft "ballooned" and then landed heavily. When the pilot taxied the aircraft off the runway he thought the nose wheel tyre was deflated.

Post flight examination found that the tie down ring on the underside of the rear fuselage had broken off. The nose landing gear assembly was badly damaged, with sheared rivets at the top of the leg casting, and the engine firewall was buckled. The right side of the nose wheel fork had spread and was abraded by contact with the runway surface.

In describing the event the pilot insisted that it be called an act of "gross stupidity".