## National Transportation Safety Board Washington, DC 20594

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## Brief of Accident

## Adopted 02/15/2001

FTW98LA400

File No. 773 09/17/1998 ARDMORE, OK Aircraft Reg No. N1575 Time (Local): 09:15 CDT Make/Model: Bell / 47-G-2 Fatal Serious Minor/None Engine Make/Model: Lycoming / VO-435-A1F Crew 0 0 1 Aircraft Damage: Substantial Pass 0 0 0 Number of Engines: 1 Operating Certificate(s): None Type of Flight Operation: Instructional Reg. Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation Last Depart. Point: Same as Accident/Incident Location Condition of Light: Day Destination: Local Flight Weather Info Src: Witness Airport Proximity: On Airport/Airstrip Basic Weather: Visual Conditions Airport Name: ARDMORE DOWNTOWN EXECUTIV Lowest Ceiling: None Runway Identification: 17 Visibility: 3.00 SM Wind Dir/Speed: 050 / 004 Kts Runway Length/Width (Ft): 5000 / 75 Runway Surface: Grass/turf Temperature (°C): 22 Precip/Obscuration: Runway Surface Condition: Soft Pilot-in-Command Age: 45 Flight Time (Hours) Certificate(s)/Rating(s) Total All Aircraft: 41 Last 90 Days: Unk/Nr Student Total Make/Model: 12 Total Instrument Time: UnK/Nr Instrument Ratings None

The solo student pilot lost control of the aircraft after the tail rotor contacted the ground. Witnesses to the accident saw the aircraft spin around to the right after the tail rotor hit the ground. When the student pilot attempted to set the aircraft back down, the helicopter rolled on to its side. The winds at the time of the accident were reported to be calm.

## Brief of Accident (Continued)

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Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING

**Findings** 

1. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - GRASS

2. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT OBTAINED/MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT

Phase of Operation: HOVER

Findings

3. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT OBTAINED/MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #3: ROLL OVER

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows. The pilots failure to maintain clearance with terrain and the ensuing loss of control.