

		NTSB ID: DEN00LA081		Aircraft Registration Number: N724CF	
		Occurrence Date: 04/28/2000		Most Critical Injury: None	
		Occurrence Type: Accident		Investigated By: NTSB	
Location/Time					
Nearest City/Place LOS ALAMOS		State NM	Zip Code 87544	Local Time 1100	Time Zone MDT
Airport Proximity: On Airport/Airstrip		Distance From Landing Facility:			
Aircraft Information Summary					
Aircraft Manufacturer HUTCHINS		Model/Series RV4 /RV4		Type of Aircraft Airplane	
Revenue Sightseeing Flight: No			Air Medical Transport Flight: No		
Narrative					
Brief narrative statement of facts, conditions and circumstances pertinent to the accident/incident:					
<p>On April 28, 2000, at 1100 mountain daylight time, a Hutchins RV4, N724CF, sustained substantial damage when it impacted the ground during an aborted landing on runway 27 at Los Alamos, New Mexico. The commercial pilot/flight instructor, the sole occupant was not injured. The flight was a cross-country flight that originated from Pagosa Springs, Colorado, and was operating under the provisions of Title 14 CFR Part 91. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and no flight plan was filed.</p> <p>During impact, the main landing gear collapsed, the firewall was damaged, and the propeller was damaged. The propeller bore chordwise damage and aft bending of both blades. Pictures provided by the Federal Aviation Administration Airworthiness inspector who examined the aircraft depicted both propeller blades to be in a "feathered" position. The type of propeller installed cannot be placed in a feathered position by pilot input from the cockpit.</p> <p>According to the pilot, the UNICOM reported the wind to be calm, but the windsock was "standing straight out." The pilot said she landed "harder than normal, bounced, and came down a second time and the airplane started to veer to the left." In her statement, she said when she "hit the dirt", she applied full power, climbed, and made a steep turn to avoid hitting the chain link fence which separates the airport from the highway. When above the fence, with wings level, she said the airplane was "slammed" to the ground.</p> <p>In her accident report, the pilot indicated the wind direction was variable at 10 knots. She did not indicate that gusts were present. According to the pilot, the temperature was approximately 75 degrees Fahrenheit. The airport elevation is 7,171 feet above mean sea level. Using the above figures, the density altitude was calculated to be approximately 9,600 feet.</p> <p>According to the airport manager and information provided by the pilot, winds at Los Alamos can vary from one part of the runway to another. A review of Safety Board records provided only one previous accident with wind as a factor. Wind was not listed as a cause on any previous accident at the airport.</p> <p>After the accident, the owner took the propeller to New Mexico Propeller, Inc., where it was disassembled. The propeller shop reported that the pitch change rod was broken internally on both sides of the fork. According to information provided by Hartzell Propellers, this type of damage is a common finding following a hard impact of the propeller. It occurs when one blade is forced to change pitch without the "cooperation" of the other parts. According to Hartzell, this forces the pitch change rod into a "Z" shape that fractures the rod on both sides of the fork. This condition is not unusual and is the result of impact damage. Hartzell engineering said that "no pitch change rod failures have been reported on this type propeller," and no failures have ever been reported that resulted in a "-1" compact propeller going to an extreme high blade angle greater than the high pitch stop in flight.</p>					
FACTUAL REPORT - AVIATION					
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 National Transportation Safety Board FACTUAL REPORT AVIATION		NTSB ID: DEN00LA081			
		Occurrence Date: 04/28/2000			
		Occurrence Type: Accident			
Landing Facility/Approach Information					
Airport Name	Airport ID:	Airport Elevation	Runway Used	Runway Length	Runway Width
LOS ALAMOS	LAM	7171 Ft. MSL	27	5550	113
Runway Surface Type: Asphalt					
Runway Surface Condition: Dry					
Approach/Arrival Flown: NONE					
VFR Approach/Landing: Go Around; Traffic Pattern					
Aircraft Information					
Aircraft Manufacturer		Model/Series		Serial Number	
HUTCHINS		RV4 /RV4		724	
Airworthiness Certificate(s): Experimental (Special)					
Landing Gear Type: Tailwheel					
Amateur Built Acft? Yes	Number of Seats: 2	Certified Max Gross Wt.	1000 LBS	Number of Engines: 1	
Engine Type:	Engine Manufacturer:	Model/Series:	Rated Power:		
Reciprocating	Lycoming	O-320-D3G	160 HP		
- Aircraft Inspection Information					
Type of Last Inspection	Date of Last Inspection	Time Since Last Inspection	Airframe Total Time		
Annual	07/1999	20 Hours	500 Hours		
- Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) Information					
ELT Installed?/Type Yes /	ELT Operated? No	ELT Aided in Locating Accident Site?			
Owner/Operator Information					
Registered Aircraft Owner		Street Address			
CHARLES F. HUTCHINS		City		State	Zip Code
		PAGOSA SPRINGS		CO	81147
Operator of Aircraft		Street Address			
MARILYN J. HUTCHINS		City		State	Zip Code
		PAGOSA SPRINGS		CO	81147
Operator Does Business As:			Operator Designator Code:		
- Type of U.S. Certificate(s) Held: None					
Air Carrier Operating Certificate(s):					
Operating Certificate:			Operator Certificate:		
Regulation Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation					
Type of Flight Operation Conducted: Personal					

 <p>National Transportation Safety Board FACTUAL REPORT AVIATION</p>	NTSB ID: DEN00LA081
	Occurrence Date: 04/28/2000
	Occurrence Type: Accident

First Pilot Information

Name On File	City On File	State On File	Date of Birth	Age 59
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Sex: F	Seat Occupied: Front	Occupational Pilot? Unknown	Certificate Number:
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Certificate(s): Flight Instructor; Commercial

Airplane Rating(s): Single-engine Land

Rotorcraft/Glider/LTA: None

Instrument Rating(s): Airplane

Instructor Rating(s): Airplane Single-engine

Current Biennial Flight Review?

Medical Cert.: Class 2	Medical Cert. Status: Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Date of Last Medical Exam: 12/1998
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- Flight Time Matrix	All A/C	This Make and Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multi-Engine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time	3000	135	2990	10	150	12	69			
Pilot In Command(PIC)										
Instructor										
Instruction Received										
Last 90 Days										
Last 30 Days										
Last 24 Hours										

Seatbelt Used? Yes	Shoulder Harness Used? Yes	Toxicology Performed? No	Second Pilot? No
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Flight Plan/Itinerary

Type of Flight Plan Filed: None

Departure Point PAGOSA SPRINGS	State CO	Airport Identifier 2V1	Departure Time 1030	Time Zone MDT
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Destination Same as Accident/Incident Location	State	Airport Identifier LAM	
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Type of Clearance: None

Type of Airspace: Class E

Weather Information

Source of Wx Information:

No record of briefing

 <p>National Transportation Safety Board FACTUAL REPORT AVIATION</p>	NTSB ID: DEN00LA081
	Occurrence Date: 04/28/2000
	Occurrence Type: Accident

Weather Information					
WOF ID	Observation Time	Time Zone	WOF Elevation	WOF Distance From Accident Site	Direction From Accident Site
	0000		0 Ft. MSL	0 NM	0 Deg. Mag.
Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition: Clear			0 Ft. AGL	Condition of Light: Day	
Lowest Ceiling: None		0 Ft. AGL	Visibility: 0 SM	Altimeter: "Hg	
Temperature: 24 °C	Dew Point: °C	Weather Conditions at Accident Site: Visual Conditions			
Wind Direction: Variable		Wind Speed: 10	Wind Gusts:		
Visibility (RVR): 0 Ft.	Visibility (RVV) 0 SM				
Precip and/or Obscuration:					

Accident Information		
Aircraft Damage: Substantial	Aircraft Fire: None	Aircraft Explosion: None

- Injury Summary Matrix	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None	TOTAL
First Pilot				1	1
Second Pilot					
Student Pilot					
Flight Instructor					
Check Pilot					
Flight Engineer					
Cabin Attendants					
Other Crew					
Passengers					
- TOTAL ABOARD -				1	1
Other Ground	0	0	0		0
- GRAND TOTAL -	0	0	0	1	1

National Transportation Safety Board

FACTUAL REPORT
AVIATION



NTSB ID: DEN00LA081

Occurrence Date: 04/28/2000

Occurrence Type: Accident

Administrative Information

Investigator-In-Charge (IIC)

NORMAN F. WIEMEYER

Additional Persons Participating in This Accident/Incident Investigation:

TAMARA BELL
ALBUQUERQUE, NM