

**Preliminary Statement regarding aircraft incident at Winnsboro, LA
Thursday, August 18, 2011**

From: Ted Colvin, Flight School Manager, JPS aviation, LLC, Monroe, LA

To: Albert Branch, ASI, Baton Rouge FSDO

As stated on the phone this afternoon, Student Pilot Anthony Nelson, was flying N3209E, a Cessna 172N, on a solo training flight in VMC conditions. His mission was to practice intercepting and tracking VOR radials from the Monroe VOR (MLU) to find various locations.

He told me that he had tracked the VOR to Winnsboro, made traffic calls on the CTAF (Unicom) and entered the traffic pattern for a touch-and-go. After successfully landing, he raised the flaps, turned off the carb heat and advanced the throttle to full power. As the airplane lifted off, a gust of wind caught him and drifted him off the runway where a wing struck a small tree along the side of the narrow right-of-way, causing him to lose control. Nelson was not hurt. To my knowledge, nothing but the airplane received any damage.

Ted Colvin

