



AVIATION



HIGHWAY



MARINE



RAILROAD



PIPELINE

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Casa Grande, Arizona	Accident Number:	GAA19CA084
Date & Time:	November 27, 2018, 18:30 Local	Registration:	N5668W
Aircraft:	Piper PA28	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Landing area undershoot	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The solo student pilot reported that, while on final approach at night, he slowed the airplane to about 87 knots and extended 20° of flaps. He then realized the airplane's altitude was low, so he initiated a go-around, but the right main landing gear struck a fence, and the airplane impacted terrain.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing.

The student reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The student pilot's failure to maintain a proper glidepath during the approach, which resulted in impact with a fence and terrain.

Findings

Aircraft	Descent/approach/glide path - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Student/instructed pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Landing area undershoot (Defining event)
Landing	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Student pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	71,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Lap only
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 26, 1970
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 170 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N5668W
Model/Series:	PA28 180	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	28-847
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2400 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O&VO-360
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Night
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KCGZ,1462 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	01:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	181°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	6 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.01 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	14°C / -1°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Moderate - None - Haze		
Departure Point:	Casa Grande, AZ (CGZ)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Casa Grande, AZ (CGZ)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	18:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	CASA GRANDE MUNI CGZ	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1464 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	05	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5200 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	32.955001,-111.766944(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Nepomuceno, Eleazar
Additional Participating Persons:	Charles Baxter; FAA; Scottsdale, AZ
Original Publish Date:	March 3, 2020
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=98723

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).