



AVIATION



HIGHWAY



MARINE



RAILROAD



PIPELINE

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Danbury, Connecticut	Accident Number:	GAA18CA345
Date & Time:	June 9, 2018, 13:30 Local	Registration:	N383ME
Aircraft:	Cessna 172	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Birdstrike	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

According to the flight instructor, a bird struck the airplane during initial climb. He and his student returned to the airport and landed without further incident.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing's ribs.

The pilot reported that there were no mechanical malfunctions or failures 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:

A collision with a bird during initial climb.

Findings

Environmental issues	Animal(s)/bird(s) - Effect on operation
-----------------------------	---

Factual Information

History of Flight

Initial climb	Birdstrike (Defining event)
---------------	-----------------------------

Flight instructor Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	69,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 6, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	April 26, 2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 13000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1280 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 150 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 60 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	57,Female
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 1, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 22, 2018
Flight Time:			

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N383ME
Model/Series:	172 S	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2000	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	172S8567
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	180 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KDXR, 457 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	18:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	221°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	320°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.1 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24°C / 11°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Danbury, CT (DXR)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Danbury, CT (DXR)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	DANBURY MUNI DXR	Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	456 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Unknown
Runway Used:		IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	41.371665,-73.482223(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	David Carreau; FAA; Enfield, CT
Original Publish Date:	March 18, 2019
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97472

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](#).