



AVIATION



HIGHWAY



MARINE



RAILROAD



PIPELINE

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Sacramento, California	Accident Number:	GAA18CA500
Date & Time:	June 30, 2018, 10:00 Local	Registration:	N4962L
Aircraft:	Cessna 152	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Abnormal runway contact	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

The solo student pilot reported that, during short final, he saw a helicopter on the runway and initiated a go-around. During the go-around, the helicopter took off, and he believed that it was "heading directly for [the airplane]," which "made [him] very anxious." The helicopter departed without further incident, and the airplane re-entered the traffic pattern to land. During his second attempt to land, immediately after touchdown, the nose landing gear touched down hard, and the airplane bounced several times. When the airplane touched down again, the nosewheel tire blew.

The flight instructor reported that, while watching the flight, he noted that the student did not flare the airplane.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the engine mount and truss.

A Federal Aviation Administration inspector 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 improper landing flare, which resulted in a hard, bounced landing.

Findings

Aircraft	Landing flare - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Student/instructed pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Abnormal runway contact (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Hard landing
Landing-flare/touchdown	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Student pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	25,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Unknown
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:	March 15, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 25 hours (Total, all aircraft), 25 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N4962L
Model/Series:	152 No Series	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1980	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Utility	Serial Number:	15284246
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1669 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	O-235 SERIES
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KMCC, 77 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	17:15 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	151°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	10°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.87 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	29°C / 9°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Sacramento, CA (MCC)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Sacramento, CA (MCC)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	MC CLELLAN AIRFIELD MCC	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Airport Elevation:	76 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	34	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	10599 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	38.667778,-121.400558(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Nepomuceno, Eleazar
Additional Participating Persons:	Richard Dillbeck; FAA; Sacramento, CA
Original Publish Date:	March 20, 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=98123

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](#).