



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Raton, New Mexico	<b>Accident Number:</b>	GAA18CA480
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	August 9, 2018, 11:25 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N104CC
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA18	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of control on ground	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Other work use		

## Analysis

The pilot in the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, during the wheel landing in gusting wind conditions, the right main landing gear (MLG) touched down on the runway followed by the left MLG. During the landing roll, the airplane encountered a wind gust from the left. The airplane ground looped to the left, and the pilot applied full right rudder and brakes. However, the airplane exited the left side of the runway, and its right wing struck the ground.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the right wing, the right aileron, and the right elevator.

The pilot reported that the airport's windsocks indicated a 5- to 10-knot "right quartering headwind."

The METAR located at the airport reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 210° at 5 knots. The airplane landed on runway 25.

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:

The pilot's loss of directional control during the landing roll.

## Findings

### Personnel issues

Aircraft control - Pilot

### Aircraft

Directional control - Not attained/maintained

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Abnormal runway contact
Landing-landing roll	Other weather encounter
Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Attempted remediation/recovery
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion
Landing-landing roll	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial; Flight instructor	<b>Age:</b>	61, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Front
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	4-point
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	Yes
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Waiver time limited special	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	December 19, 2017
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	Yes	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	November 9, 2017
<b>Flight Time:</b>	(Estimated) 5692 hours (Total, all aircraft), 38 hours (Total, this make and model), 3905 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 64 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 23 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Piper	<b>Registration:</b>	N104CC
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA18 150	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	2002	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	9947CC
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	April 16, 2018 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2000 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	9579.2 Hrs at time of accident	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O360-C4P
<b>Registered Owner:</b>		<b>Rated Power:</b>	180 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KRTN, 6349 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	0 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	17:53 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	190°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	5 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	210°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.32 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	24°C / 13°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Rotan, NM (RTN )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Rotan, NM (RTN )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	10:38 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Raton Muni/Crews Field RTN	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	6352 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	25	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	4425 ft / 75 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop;Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	36.7425,-104.501663(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Hicks, Michael
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Gary Medina; FAA; Albuquerque, NM
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	June 10, 2019
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=98039">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=98039</a>

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