



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Rockford, Illinois Accident Number: GAA18CA157

Date & Time: March 12, 2018, 09:30 Local **Registration:** N96772

Aircraft: Cessna 182 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Abnormal runway contact **Injuries:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot reported that during landing, about 20 ft above ground level and about 80 kts, he reached for his iPad. He took his eyes off the runway to grab the device that was located on the seat next to him, and the airplane collided with the ground in a nose-down attitude. The pilot reported that he should not have taken his eyes off the runway during landing.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the lower fuselage stringers, longerons, and formers.

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 unnecessary action during the approach, which resulted in a hard landing.

Findings

Personnel issues Unnecessary action - Pilot

Personnel issuesDecision making/judgment - PilotPersonnel issuesTask monitoring/vigilance - Pilot

Aircraft Landing flare - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Incorrect action performance - Pilot

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing Abnormal runway contact (Defining event)

Approach-IFR initial approach Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Landing Hard landing

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	75,Male
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:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	BasicMed Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 10, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	March 9, 2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 3428 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3328 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 17 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N96772
Model/Series:	182 Q	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1979	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18266846
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 21, 2017 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2950 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3144 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	C91A installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-470-U
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	230 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KRFD,743 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:54 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	126°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 2600 ft AGL	Visibility	9 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 3300 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	320°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.13 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	2°C / -3°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Dubuque, CA (DBQ)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Rockford, IL (RFD)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	09:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

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Airport Information

Airport: CHICAGO/ROCKFORD INTL RFD Runway Surface Type: Asphalt;Concrete

Airport Elevation:742 ft mslRunway Surface Condition:DryRunway Used:01IFR Approach:None

Runway Length/Width: 8200 ft / 150 ft VFR Approach/Landing: Full stop; Straight-in

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:	42.195278,-89.097221(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	James Lobash; FAA; Dupage, IL
Original Publish Date:	August 27, 2018
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=96856

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.

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