



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Marion, Iowa	Accident Number:	GAA18CA341
Date & Time:	June 10, 2018, 17:00 Local	Registration:	N4295T
Aircraft:	Piper PA 28	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Abnormal runway contact	Injuries:	3 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

According to the pilot, during his first attempt to land, the nosewheel touched down first, and the airplane "porpoised." He aborted the landing and accomplished another landing, but when the airplane touched down on the runway, the nose landing gear collapsed. The pilot used differential braking to steer the airplane into the grassy area on the left side of the runway.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the engine mount.

The pilot reported that the accident could have been prevented if the airspeed had been slower and if the airplane's pitch attitude was better than the initial landing. Additionally, the pilot noted that he landed with a 90° crosswind from the left.

The pilot reported that, at the time of the accident, the wind was from 08° at 11 knots. The pilot landed the airplane on runway 17.

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 improper pitch during the first landing, which resulted in a porpoise, and the failure of the nose landing gear during the second landing after a subsequent go-around.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Aircraft	Pitch control - Not attained/maintained

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Abnormal runway contact (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Landing gear collapse

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	62,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	December 18, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 5, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 166 hours (Total, all aircraft), 147 hours (Total, this make and model), 131 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N4295T
Model/Series:	PA 28 236	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1983	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	28-8311022
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	October 26, 2017 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2488 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-540-J3A5D
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	235 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:	KCID,868 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	12 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	22:52 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	223°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 2100 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	13 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	60°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.81 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	23°C / 19°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Spirit Lake, IA (0F3)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Marion, IA (C17)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	15:20 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	MARION C17	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	862 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	17	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3775 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Go around;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	3 None	Latitude, Longitude:	42.029724,-91.531669(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	Brett Hoben; FAA; Des Moines, IA
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=97464

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