



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Geneva, Ohio	Accident Number:	GAA17CA334
Date & Time:	June 9, 2017, 10:00 Local	Registration:	N32088
Aircraft:	Piper PA28R	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of the airplane reported that, during landing, she added full flaps, and the wind shifted. She applied full power, but the airplane settled, and the left main landing gear touched down on the left edge of the runway. Subsequently, the airplane impacted trees on the left side of the runway.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

The pilot reported that the wind was light and variable and that she landed on runway 19. The automated weather observation system about 9 nautical miles from the accident site reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 220° at 7 knots. Additional weather observations from the same site showed that, from 1 hour before the accident until 1 hour after the accident, the wind direction varied from south-southwest to west-northwest, and the speed varied from 6 to 8 knots.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's failure to maintain a proper landing flare in variable wind conditions, which resulted in the airplane landing on the left edge of the runway and impacting trees.

Findings

Aircraft	Landing flare - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Sudden wind shift - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	Tree(s) - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
Landing	Attempted remediation/recovery
Landing	Abnormal runway contact
Landing	Runway excursion
Landing	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
Landing	Nose over/nose down

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	65,Female
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 4, 2016
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 23, 2015
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1494 hours (Total, all aircraft), 538 hours (Total, this make and model), 9.1 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N32088
Model/Series:	PA28R 200	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1974	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	28R-7535023
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	October 7, 2016 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4874.44 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	C91 installed, activated	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-C1C
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	200 Horsepower
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:	KHZY, 924 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	9 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	90°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	220°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.87 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	20°C / 11°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Geneva, OH (7D9)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Geneva, OH (7D9)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	09:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	GERMACK 7D9	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	820 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	19	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3260 ft / 28 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	41.77861,-80.90361(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Swenson, Eric
Additional Participating Persons:	Alexander McAninch; FAA; Cleveland, OH
Original Publish Date:	August 22, 2017
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=95356

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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