



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Durhamville, NY	Accident Number:	ERA10CA211
Date & Time:	04/02/2010, 0750 EDT	Registration:	N1514G
Aircraft:	FIREFLY AX8B	Injuries:	1 Serious, 2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of the balloon stated that at the conclusion of the 1-hour flight, with two passengers, he conducted a typical landing to a "level, grassy" golf course fairway. During the landing, one of the passengers "lost [her] footing" in the gondola, fell, and slid into the pilot. The pilot then fell onto the passenger, fracturing her ankle. The pilot did not mention if he gave the passengers a prelanding briefing prior to the landing.

Flight Events

Landing - Miscellaneous/other

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The passenger's failure to adequately brace herself for the landing.

Findings

Personnel issues-Action/decision-Action-Lack of action-Passenger - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	56
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Balloon	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	80 hours (Total, all aircraft), 80 hours (Total, this make and model), 71 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	FIREFLY	Registration:	N1514G
Model/Series:	AX8B	Engines:	0
Operator:	Steven Kenneth Flanders	Engine Manufacturer:	
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	RME, 504 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots, 140°
Temperature:	13°C / 11°C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Munnsville, NY	Destination:	Durhamville, NY

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	None
Passenger Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jose Obregon	Adopted Date:	08/12/2010
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=75661		

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.