



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Talkeetna, AK	Accident Number:	GAA16CA004
Date & Time:	10/01/2015, 1802 AKD	Registration:	N8996Y
Aircraft:	PIPER PA 18-150	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Nose over/nose down	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that he was practicing off airport landings on a gravel bar, as part of a backcountry flying course, with a company safety pilot in the rear seat. During the landing roll and as the airplane approached the end of the gravel bar, he applied the brakes and the airplane nosed over.

The pilot reported that there were no pre-impact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airframe or engine that would have precluded normal operation. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the right forward lift strut and the empennage.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
The pilot's excessive brake application during landing, which resulted in a nose-over.

Findings

Aircraft

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)
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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Nose over/nose down (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Flight Instructor; Military	Age:	41, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without Waivers/Limitations	Last Medical Exam:	12/22/2014
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	07/29/2015
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 3400 hours (Total, all aircraft), 24 hours (Total, this make and model), 2761 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 78 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Pilot-Rated Passenger Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport; Commercial	Age:	31, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Rear
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):		Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Unknown Unknown	Last Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	PIPER	Registration:	N8996Y
Model/Series:	PA 18-150 A150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Restricted	Serial Number:	18-7409138
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	02/01/2015, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1750 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2833.6 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320 SERIES
Registered Owner:	BALDWIN, SANDRA M.	Rated Power:	160 hp
Operator:	On file	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	PATK, 356 ft msl	Observation Time:	0153 UTC
Distance from Accident Site:	16 Nautical Miles	Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:	357°	Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Temperature/Dew Point:	5°C / -3°C
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Calm	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	30.48 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	PALMER, AK (4AK6)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	PALMER, AK (4AK6)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1400 AKD	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Jackie L Vanover	Adopted Date:	02/08/2016
Additional Participating Persons:	James Grogan; FAA; Wasilla, AK		
Publish Date:	02/08/2016		
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=92125		

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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