



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Zelienople, PA	Accident Number:	GAA18CA278
Date & Time:	05/12/2018, 1100 EDT	Registration:	N2485D
Aircraft:	CESSNA 170	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

According to the pilot in the tailwheel-equipped airplane, during the landing roll with the tailwheel on the ground, the airplane may have encountered a wind gust. The airplane exited the runway to the left, and the left main landing gear struck a taxiway sign.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left main landing gear attachment points, the lower fuselage longeron, and the elevator.

The pilot reported that the wind at the airport about the time of the accident was variable at 4 knots and that skies were clear.

The nearest METAR to the accident site, located 11 miles to the west, reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 270° at 8 knots with lightning in the distance to the northwest. The pilot landed the airplane on runway 35.

The pilot reported that the accident could have been prevented if he had more quickly applied corrective actions, including increasing right rudder pedal pressure, using more differential braking, and increasing right aileron input.

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

Flight Events

Landing-landing roll - Loss of control on ground
Landing-landing roll - Runway excursion
Landing-landing roll - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Probable Cause

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

The pilot's failure to maintain directional control during the landing roll.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Directional control-Not attained/maintained - C

Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C

Environmental issues-Physical environment-Object/animal/substance-Sign/marker-Contributed to outcome

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	65
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	226.7 hours (Total, all aircraft), 42.1 hours (Total, this make and model), 150.6 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 14.6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2.5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1.4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N2485D
Model/Series:	170 B	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	DRAGGIN TAIL PILOTS LLC.	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	C145
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KBVI, 1252 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / , 270°
Temperature:	22° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Zelienople, PA (PJC)	Destination:	Zelienople, PA (PJC)

Airport Information

Airport:	ZELIENOPLE MUNI (PJC)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	35	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	4933 ft / 75 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	40.801944, -80.160833 (est)		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Michael A Hicks	Adopted Date:	03/18/2019
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=97246		

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