



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Cape Carteret, NC	Accident Number:	GAA18CA281
Date & Time:	05/14/2018, 1230 EDT	Registration:	N25WE
Aircraft:	PIPER PA 32R	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

According to the pilot in the retractable-landing gear-equipped airplane, he set up for an extended final approach to the sandy turf runway. He waited until he cleared the trees and "then...dropped down to land." The main landing gear touched down first, followed by the nose landing gear. The main and nose landing gear collapsed upon contact with the runway. The pilot reported that the airplane slid about 300 ft before it came to a stop on the right side of the runway.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings and the lower fuselage.

The Federal Aviation Administration aviation safety inspector who examined the airplane at the accident site reported that witnesses stated that the pilot landed the airplane hard on the sandy turf surface. However, the pilot stated that he did not. However, the pilot did state that he really had to bring the airplane in steep over the trees to get it on the runway.

Photographs provided by the operator showed vertical deformation of both wings at the main landing gear mount location.

Flight Events

Landing-landing roll - Landing gear collapse
Landing-landing roll - Abnormal runway contact

Probable Cause

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

The pilot's steep approach, which resulted in a hard landing and the collapse of the landing gear during touchdown.

Findings

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

Aircraft-Aircraft systems-Landing gear system-Main landing gear-Capability exceeded - C
Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	38
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 600 hours (Total, all aircraft), 250 hours (Total, this make and model), 425 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 44 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1.2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N25WE
Model/Series:	PA 32R 300	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	AXIOM CAPITAL SOLUTIONS LLC	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-540-K1G5D
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:	KNJM, 22 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	13 knots / , 230°
Temperature:	26° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Burlington, NC (BUY)	Destination:	Cape Carteret, NC (60NC)

Airport Information

Airport:	STAR HILL GOLF CLUB (60NC)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Runway Used:	06	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	2800 ft / 75 ft		

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
Latitude, Longitude:	34.705278, -77.051111 (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=97264		

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