



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	DePere, WI	Accident Number:	GAA18CA490
Date & Time:	08/14/2018, 1750 CDT	Registration:	N1085U
Aircraft:	Cessna 172	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, during landing, the airplane touched down and suddenly "pitched and lifted to the right." He added power to go around, but the airplane climbed and "turned way more to the left." The airplane impacted trees, spun, and dropped onto terrain.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage.

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

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 lateral control and his subsequent failure to maintain the runway heading during an attempted go-around, which resulted in impact with trees.

Findings

Aircraft	Lateral/bank control - Not attained/maintained (Cause) Heading/course - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)
Environmental issues	Tree(s) - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Approach-VFR go-around	Loss of control in flight (Defining event) Attempted remediation/recovery Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	69, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	10/24/2016
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	07/27/2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 199.8 hours (Total, all aircraft), 185.5 hours (Total, this make and model), 13.1 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 13.1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6.3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N1085U
Model/Series:	172 M	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1976	Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	17266834
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	03/14/2018, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	8001 Hours as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-E2D
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	160 hp
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KGRB, 702 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	8 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2253 UTC	Direction from Accident Site:	336°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	240°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.91 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	29° C / 19° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Green Bay, WI (GRB)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	DePere, WI (WS43)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	1734 CDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	BIRCH CREEK (WS43)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	813 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	26	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2800 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop; Go Around

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	44.355833, -88.059722 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Kathryn R Benhoff	Report Date:	03/18/2019
Additional Participating Persons:	Michael Pieczynski; FAA; Milwaukee, WI		
Publish 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=98074		

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. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).