



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Pueblo, CO	Accident Number:	GAA19CA490
Date & Time:	08/07/2019, 0810 MDT	Registration:	N979DA
Aircraft:	Diamond DA20	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

The student pilot reported that, after being endorsed for his first solo flight, he conducted three approaches and landings. During the third approach, the airplane's nose yawed right, and he applied left rudder to correct but was unsuccessful. When the airplane was about 15 ft above ground level, the student aborted the landing and applied full engine power, but the airplane continued to descend while yawing right. The airplane landed on the runway with the nose oriented right of the runway heading, exited the runway, encountered rough terrain, and then stopped. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the tail and empennage. The student 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 student pilot's failure to maintain the runway heading during an attempted aborted landing, which resulted in a runway excursion onto rough terrain.

Findings

Aircraft	Heading/course - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Student pilot (Cause)
Environmental issues	Rough terrain - Effect on operation (Cause)

Factual Information

History of Flight

Approach	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
Approach-VFR go-around	Attempted remediation/recovery
Landing-aborted after touchdown	Abnormal runway contact Runway excursion

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	33, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	06/04/2019
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 18.4 hours (Total, all aircraft), 17.7 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Diamond	Registration:	N979DA
Model/Series:	DA20 C1	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2008	Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Utility	Serial Number:	C0486
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	07/02/2019, 100 Hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1764 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6528.9 Hours as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	C126 installed, activated, aided in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	IO-240-B
Registered Owner:	Doss Aviation Inc	Rated Power:	125 hp
Operator:	Doss Aviation Inc	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KPUB, 4720 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1416 UTC	Direction from Accident Site:	90°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	Light and Variable /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	Variable	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.05 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	23° C / 16° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Pueblo, CO (PUB)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Pueblo, CO (PUB)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	0755 MDT	Type of Airspace:	Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	Pueblo Memorial (PUB)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	4729 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	08L	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4690 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Go Around; Traffic Pattern

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
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	38.290000, -104.498056 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Michael A Hicks	Report Date:	04/13/2020
Additional Participating Persons:	William Mahaffey; FAA; Denver, CO		
Publish Date:	04/13/2020		
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=100036		

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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