

Dawn E. Vinson

Thursday, September 12th, 2019

0800 Flight instructor Anthony DeSantis, and myself, student pilot, met in the Downtown Aviation flight school and walked out to N21979.

We completed a thorough walk-around. Taxied the a/c to the fuel pumps.

After fueling a/c we briefed. Clear skies. Zero KNT crosswinds. Rwy 17 active with one other a/c in the pattern. The plan was to conduct 3 - 4 landings while the pattern was empty, then depart the pattern for the west practice area.

Aprox 0840 I departed General DeWitt Spain Airport Rwy 17 closed traffic. I was in the left seat; Anthony was in the right seat. We conducted 3 routine uneventful landings. The 4th landing was uneventful prior to touching down: Rt hand pattern. Rwy 17. 30 degree flaps. 65 MPH on short final. Lined up on center line. I pulled the power when we crossed the threshold and had the runway made. I flared early; touched down on the mains and skipped. The aircraft tracked down the runway, then drifted RT of centerline. Between 500-1000 ft, as the a/c continued to drift to the right, Anthony commanded "I have the aircraft" and took the controls. I responded "you have the aircraft" and removed my hands from the yoke and placed my feet flat on the floor. The a/c did not appear to respond and continued to drift further to the right. Prior to mid-field, we left the runway. The a/c bounced, banked, gained lift, then pancaked and spun prior to coming to a rest west of the runway, south of the windsock.

Anthony turned off the fuel switch. I turned off the mags and masters. Anthony inquired if I was ok, retrieved my handheld radio from my helmet bag and radioed in the accident. We both egressed the a/c from our respective doors. Airport personnel arrived shortly thereafter and transported us to the terminal.