



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Taylor, Texas	Accident Number:	DFW08CA165
Date & Time:	June 15, 2008, 14:30 Local	Registration:	N2345G
Aircraft:	Piper PA-38-112	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The student pilot was landing on runway 17. During touchdown, the airplane bounced twice before swerving and exiting the right side of the runway. During the accident the left main landing gear collapsed and the left wing and fuselage sustained substantial damage. Approximately 16 minutes after the accident, a weather reporting station located 13 miles northwest of the accident site, reported winds from 160 degrees at 11 knots gusting to 16 knots.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The student pilot's improper flare during landing. Contributing to the accident was the gusty winds.

Findings

Environmental issues	Gusts - Contributed to outcome
Aircraft	Landing flare - Incorrect use/operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Runway excursion
Landing-flare/touchdown	Landing gear collapse

Student pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	21, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
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 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	April 1, 2008
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	66 hours (Total, all aircraft), 66 hours (Total, this make and model), 4 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 37 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 24 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N2345G
Model/Series:	PA-38-112	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	38-79A0501
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	February 1, 2008 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	9604 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-235
Registered Owner:	Pilots Choice Aviation Inc	Rated Power:	112 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	GTU,790 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	13 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	14:46 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	291°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 3500 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	11 knots / 16 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	160°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.89 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	35°C / 19°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	GEORGETOWN, TX (GTU)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	TAYLOR, TX (T74)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	TAYLOR MUNI T74	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	17	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4000 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	30.5725,-97.443054

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	LeBaron, Timothy
Additional Participating Persons:	John Bures; FAA FSDO; San Antonio, TX
Original Publish Date:	September 26, 2008
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=68239

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