



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Valparaiso, Indiana	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CEN09CA208
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	December 29, 2008, 11:45 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N3331R
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA-28-180	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Hard landing	<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot was returning from a local flight and he reported that during the landing on runway 27, the airplane touched down, ballooned, and became airborne again. He stated that the airplane then came down hard on the main landing gear first, followed by the nose landing gear. The nose landing gear collapsed and the airplane came to a stop. Subsequent examination of the airplane confirmed damage to the wing main spar.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's improper flare during landing, resulting in a bounced landing.

## Findings

<b>Aircraft</b>	Landing flare - Not attained/maintained
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Gusts - Effect on operation

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Landing-flare/touchdown</b>	Hard landing (Defining event)
<b>Landing-flare/touchdown</b>	Landing gear collapse

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	64, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	January 10, 2008
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	255 hours (Total, all aircraft), 62 hours (Total, this make and model)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Piper	<b>Registration:</b>	N3331R
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA-28-180	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	28-5661
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	Unknown	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O&VO-360 SER
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	SINGLE WINGERS INC	<b>Rated Power:</b>	180 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	John L. Deaner	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>		<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>		<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>		<b>Visibility</b>	
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>		<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	17 knots / 23 knots	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	230°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>			
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Valparaiso, IN (VPZ )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Valparaiso, IN (VPZ )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>		<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Porter County Municipal Airpor VPZ	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	770 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	27	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	7001 ft / 150 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	2 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	41.453887,-87.006942

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Brannen, John
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Robert Coneful; FAA-South Bend FSDO; South Bend , IN
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	October 21, 2010
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=73486">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=73486</a>

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