



## NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

**Kathryn Benhoff**  
**Air Safety Investigator**  
**General Aviation Accident Investigation Division, AS-20**

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**Date: August 22, 2017**  
**Person Contacted: John M. Chancellor (student pilot)**  
**NTSB Accident Number: GAA17CA492**

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The following is a summary of the conversation:

The student pilot reported that this flight was his first solo cross country flight. He added that during the landing and back taxi, he observed no wind. He reported that the airport is surrounded by "fairly small hills", with a large hill located to the west of the airport. During takeoff, around 45-50 knots, a gust of wind pushed the airplane to the left. During the runway excursion, he reduced power, but the airplane impacted a valley, the nose landing gear sheared off, and the airplane nosed over.

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