



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Kathryn Benhoff
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General Aviation Accident Investigation Division, AS-20

Date: September 27, 2018
Person Contacted: Gary Medina (FAA Inspector)
NTSB Accident Number: GAA18CA493

The following is a summary of an email conversation with the above mentioned:

The Federal Aviation Administrator (FAA) inspector reported that, immediately after the accident on August 15, 2018 at 1150 MDT, the student pilot stated on the phone that he was signed off by his flight instructor to fly a long solo cross country flight earlier in the morning. The student stated as he was landing on runway 26 at Silver City, NM (KSVC), the winds were directly across the runway and gusty. The crosswind started drifting the aircraft off the runway and before he could add power for a go-around, the aircraft left the runway and stopped in the dirt, having spun around 180°. The nose gear collapsed, the propeller struck the ground, the right wing tip struck the ground, and the airplane came to a stop upright. The student stated he was not prepared to handle those kinds of crosswinds, therefore admitting he lost control of the airplane while landing.

He reported that, since the day of the accident, the student pilot had not responded to repeated attempts to collect further information regarding this accident.

He added that the student pilot had previously been in an accident very similar to this accident in January of 2018. The airplane sustained substantial damage after flipping over onto its back while attempting to landing in strong, gusting crosswinds.