

Hard Landing of L23 Blanik N912B, SN917912B

On Memorial Day May 31, 2021 at approximately 2:00 PM I observed student pilot Chris Hauser's right downwind, base and finale approach to runway 27. All appeared normal with the exception of a higher than normal turn onto final. Chris pulled full spoilers resulting in a rapid decent, but from my perspective never closed them, which resulted in a very hard landing. At that point total control was lost! I heard a loud "boom" and saw a runway cone/light fly into the air. The aircraft exited the runway to the left. A second "boom" later turned out to be a drainage culvert pipe. A third "boom" was a taxiway cone/light as the aircraft swerved back toward the runway. I was the first to reach Chris who was having trouble exiting the plane due to a very bad right leg cramp. Chris was not injured, but there was severe damage to the right wing and fuselage of the Blanik.

[REDACTED]
Allan L. Gustafson

[REDACTED]
Warren, Pa. 16365
[REDACTED]

NTSB Witness report for a Blanik L23, N912B on 5/31/2021 at Brokenstraw Airport.

Witness Carl J Hillenbrand, Private pilot [REDACTED] and Student glider pilot.

As Christopher Hauser was landing Allan Gustafson drove the golf cart to retrieve Christopher Hauser, David Davila, Linda Mowry, and myself were standing in front of the glider hanger. I was facing away from the runway when David Davila said oh no, I turned to see the Blanik L23 about a 30 to 35 degree angle to the runway and at the left edge of the of runway 27. The left bottom spoiler hit the runway light, the Blanik went off the runway heading towards a hanger, the right wing dropped into the ditch and I heard the wing hit a drainage culvert, the Blanik L23 turned right back on the runway through the taxiway and the right wing impacted another light, and came to rest.


[REDACTED]
Carl J Hillenbrand

[REDACTED]
Utica, PA 16362
[REDACTED]

David Davila -

(Statement of Brokenstraw Airport Blanik L23 Accident) - Monday, May 31, 2021

I was standing in front of the picnic table in front of the Glider Hangar. I did not observe the initial touchdown of the Blanik. I heard a loud bang and turned and looked down field and saw the glider in the center of the runway approximately. It had just touched down and was still moving on the ground. I then observed it drifting to the left as it approached the runway edge. I observed a runway cone fly into the air and heard a loud bang. The glider then turned and was approximately parallel with the runway at that point, and was positioned on the taxiway. As I watched, the right wing went down very low. I heard another bang, but could not see the impact of the wing, but I heard it hit. It was so low that I couldn't see it. That impact turned the glider back to the right toward the runway, where it struck another runway cone and then came to rest. I was approximately 1,000 feet from the impact area.



David Davila