

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Osceola, Wisconsin Accident Number: CEN20CA317

Date & Time: July 17, 2020, 11:15 Local Registration: N1926N

Aircraft: Cessna 120 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

Analysis

The flight instructor, and the pilot receiving instruction, both reported that during tailwheel transition training, the airplane drifted to the right of the runway while performing a wheel-landing. They reported that left rudder was applied to counteract the drift, but the airplane did not respond as expected. The pilot receiving instruction stated that the airplane exited the runway, the left wheel caught the terrain, and the airplane nosed over. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing, vertical stabilizer, and rudder. Neither pilot reported any mechanical failures or malfunctions of the airplane that precluded normal operation. Both pilots reported the wind condition as light and variable.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilots did not maintain directional control of the airplane during landing.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Student/instructed pilot
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Instructor/check pilot

Page 2 of 6 CEN20CA317

Factual Information

History of Flight

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	65,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 18, 2020
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	2180 hours (Total, all aircraft), 58 hours (Total, this make and model), 2082 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 48 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 23 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Student pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	43,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 1, 2019
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	3000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2 hours (Total, this make and model), 2965 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 140 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 65 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Page 3 of 6 CEN20CA317

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N1926N
Model/Series:	120 No Series	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1947	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	12170
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 1, 2019 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1451 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	C85 SERIES
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	85 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KOEO,906 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:15 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.04 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	28°C / 22°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Osceola, WI (OEO)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Osceola, WI (OEO)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class G

Page 4 of 6 CEN20CA317

Airport Information

Airport:	L O Simenstad Municipal Arpt OEO	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	906 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	10	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5006 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	45.309444,-92.690002

Page 5 of 6 CEN20CA317

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Brannen, John
Additional Participating Persons:	Ed Martin; MSP-FSDO; Minneapolis, MN
Original Publish Date:	May 6, 2021
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=101700

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 United States Code section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 United States Code section 1154(b) is available here.

Page 6 of 6 CEN20CA317