

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Williston, North Dakota Accident Number: CEN22LA439

Date & Time: September 26, 2022, 13:39 Local Registration: N93330

Aircraft: Cessna 180 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot reported that while the airplane was settling to the runway and he was making rudder corrections, a gust of wind lifted the left wing and the left main landing gear from the runway. The pilot was able to get the left main landing gear back on the runway, while still applying right rudder input. The airplane then ground looped, and the left wing and the left rudder impacted the runway. The airplane came to rest upright on the runway and the pilot was then able to taxi to the ramp. The airplane's left wing and the left elevator sustained substantial damage. The pilot reported there were no preimpact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation. At the time of the accident, the airplane was landing on runway 32 with winds light and variable with gusts to 7 knots.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

The pilot's failure to maintain directional control of the airplane during the landing, which resulted in a ground loop.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Attempted remediation/recovery
Landing-flare/touchdown	Collision during takeoff/land

Student pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	41,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 15, 2020
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	August 16, 2022
Flight Time:	72.4 hours (Total, all aircraft), 53.1 hours (Total, this make and model), 11.5 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 2.4 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N93330
Model/Series:	180 Undesignated Series	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1955	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	31731
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 2, 2022 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2950 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4689.3 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-520-F
Registered Owner:	JARVYS CONSULTING LLC	Rated Power:	230 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:	None	Operator Designator Code:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KS25,2110 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	34 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:35 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	144°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	350°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.12 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	21°C / 1°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Williston, ND	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Williston, ND	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class E

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Airport Information

Airport:	WILLISTON BASIN INTL XWA	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Airport Elevation:	2356 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	32	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	7503 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	48.252838,-103.74356(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hodges, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	Michael Linden; FAA Fargo FSDO; Fargo, ND
Original Publish Date:	December 20, 2022
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=106076

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.

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