



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	North Las Vegas, Nevada	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR23LA179
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	May 5, 2023, 09:45 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N83SE
<b>Aircraft:</b>	ELY JOHN M VANS ACFT RV-8	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of control on ground	<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

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## Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, during the landing rollout, he encountered a gusting right crosswind that lifted the right wing. As the airplane weathervaned to the right, the pilot applied left rudder input, but was unable to maintain directional control. The airplane veered off the runway to the right and subsequently ground looped, resulting in substantial damage to the left wing. The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

## 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 during landing in gusting wind conditions, which resulted in a ground loop.

## Findings

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<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot
<b>Aircraft</b>	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Gusts - Response/compensation

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Landing-landing roll</b>	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
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### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	57, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Front
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	5-point
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	February 21, 2023
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	Yes	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	February 21, 2023
<b>Flight Time:</b>	520 hours (Total, all aircraft), 132 hours (Total, this make and model), 440 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 24 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Passenger Information

<b>Certificate:</b>		<b>Age:</b>	
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>		<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Center
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>		<b>Restraint Used:</b>	4-point
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>		<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>		<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	
<b>Medical Certification:</b>		<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>			

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	ELY JOHN M	<b>Registration:</b>	N83SE
<b>Model/Series:</b>	VANS ACFT RV-8	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	2004	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Experimental (Special)	<b>Serial Number:</b>	81685
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	March 3, 2023 Condition	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1900 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	14 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	1525 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Aero Sport Power
<b>ELT:</b>	C91 installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-360-A1A
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	On file	<b>Rated Power:</b>	180 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KVGT,2190 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	0 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	09:53 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	1°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	15 knots / 22 knots	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	200°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29.91 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	19°C / -2°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	North Las Vegas, NV	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	North Las Vegas, NV	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	VFR flight following
<b>Departure Time:</b>		<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class D

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	NORTH LAS VEGAS VGT	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	2205 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	12R	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	4199 ft / 75 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop;Straight-in

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	2 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	36.209598,-115.19407

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Rho, Paul
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Charles Gomez; FAA; Las Vegas, NV
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	September 21, 2023
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class 4</a>
<b>Note:</b>	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=114706">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=114706</a>

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](#).