



Aviation Investigation Preliminary Report

Location:	Novato, CA	Accident Number:	WPR24LA023
Date & Time:	October 26, 2023, 13:30 Local	Registration:	N28BS
Aircraft:	VANS AIRCRAFT INC RV-12	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

On October 26, 2023, about 1330 Pacific daylight time, an Experimental Amateur-Built Vans RV-12, N28BS, was substantially damaged when it was involved in an accident near Novato, California. The pilot and passenger were not injured. The airplane was operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 personal flight.

According to the pilot, the accident flight was the first flight following completion of a condition inspection, which included rebuilding both carburetors and replacement of cylinder Nos 1 and 3 ignition leads. He stated that following an uneventful pre-takeoff engine runup, he initiated takeoff on runway 31, and the airplane seemed a little "lethargic" during the takeoff roll. As the airplane was about 100 ft above ground level, the engine began to run rough and lost partial power. The pilot initiated a 180° turn to runway 13 but was "too high and too fast." The pilot made a left turn to land on a nearby road, the airplane landed hard, and the nose wheel landing gear collapsed.

Postaccident examination of the airplane revealed that the fuselage was structurally damaged. The wreckage was relocated to a secure location for further examination.

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	VANS AIRCRAFT INC	Registration:	N28BS
Model/Series:	RV-12	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Amateur Built:	Yes		
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Designator Code:			

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	VMC	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KDVO,4 ft msl	Observation Time:	13:35 Local
Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles	Temperature/Dew Point:	19°C /1°C
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility:	10 miles
Altimeter Setting:	30.1 inches Hg	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	NONE
Departure Point:	Novato, CA	Destination:	Novato, CA

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:		Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	38.14904,-122.56179 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Cawthra, Joshua
Additional Participating Persons:	Justin Horn; Federal Aviation Administration; Oakland, CA
Investigation Class:	Class 3
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.