



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Bremen, Indiana	Accident Number:	CEN24LA103
Date & Time:	December 8, 2023, 17:05 Local	Registration:	N330RH
Aircraft:	Vans RV6	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Landing gear collapse	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Positioning		

Analysis

The pilot was landing on a grass runway when the nose landing gear encountered soft terrain and collapsed during the landing roll. The airplane came to rest in a nose down attitude with substantial damage to the engine mount. The pilot reported that the grass runway was softer than he anticipated, and that the airplane had no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures 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 collapse of the nose landing gear after it contacted soft terrain during the landing roll.

Findings

Aircraft	Nose/tail gear strut/axle - Capability exceeded
Environmental issues	Soft surface - Awareness of condition
Environmental issues	Soft surface - Effect on equipment

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Miscellaneous/other
Landing-landing roll	Landing gear collapse (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Nose over/nose down

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Flight instructor	Age:	78, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane; Helicopter	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Helicopter; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	BasicMed	Last FAA Medical Exam:	December 5, 2023
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	14853 hours (Total, all aircraft), 12 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Vans	Registration:	N330RH
Model/Series:	RV6 A	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2022	Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	20376
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 20, 2023 Condition	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1650 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	23 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	23 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360-A3B6D
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	200 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Dusk
Observation Facility, Elevation:	C65,800 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	8 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	217°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 2700 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots / 13 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.76 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	12°C / 5°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Plymouth, IN (C65)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Bremen, IN (PVT)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	16:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	Private Airstrip PVT	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	820 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry;Soft
Runway Used:	27	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	1350 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;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:	41.473284,-86.194006(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Miller, Bradley
Additional Participating Persons:	John Shaver; FAA; Chicago, IL
Original Publish Date:	July 2, 2024
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=193727

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