



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: MONROEVILLE, Pennsylvania Accident Number: NYC93LA030

Date & Time: October 25, 1992, 15:35 Local Registration: N2503L

Aircraft: PIPER PA-38-112 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

THE PILOT ATTEMPTED TO LAND ON RUNWAY 05. HE SAID, 'I HAD TO GO-AROUND SEVERAL TIMES BECAUSE THE WIND DIRECTION WAS ERRATIC....ONCE TOUCHDOWN OCCURRED, THE AIRPLANE IMMEDIATELY VEERED LEFT OFF THE RUNWAY.' THE AIRPLANE STRUCK TREES. THE RUNWAY WIDTH IS 28 FEET. THE PILOT HAD A TOTAL FLIGHT TIME OF 56 HOURS. THE WINDS WERE REPORTED FROM 330 DEGREES AT 14 KNOTS WITH GUSTS TO 22 KNOTS.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S IMPROPER COMPENSATION FOR ADVERSE WIND CONDITIONS DURING LANDING, RESULTING IN A LOSS OF DIRECTIONAL CONTROL AND SUBSEQUENT DEPARTURE FROM THE RUNWAY AND COLLISION WITH TREES. FACTOR RELATED TO THE ACCIDENT WAS: THE UNFAVORABLE WINDS.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - UNFAVORABLE WIND

2. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND

3. (F) LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE - PILOT IN COMMAND

4. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

5. OBJECT - TREE(S)

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Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	28,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medicalno waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 13, 1992
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	56 hours (Total, all aircraft), 56 hours (Total, this make and model), 26 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 19 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N2503L
Model/Series:	PA-38-112 PA-38-112	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	38-79A0736
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	October 9, 1992 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1670 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	30 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	7758 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	0-235-L2A
Registered Owner:	NANCIE L. WALDRON	Rated Power:	112 Horsepower
Operator:	NANCIE L. WALDRON	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Unknown	Visibility	15 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	14 knots / 22 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	330°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	7°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:	LORAIN , OH (22G)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	14:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	MONROEVILLE 4GO	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1187 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	5	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2280 ft / 28 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	40.420513,-79.759658(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date:

June 21, 1993

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class:

Class

Note:

Investigation Docket:

https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=37266

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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