

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: ARCHDALE, North Carolina Accident Number: ATL05CA146

Date & Time: August 16, 2005, 15:45 Local Registration: N8595C

Aircraft: Piper 22 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

During an aborted takeoff, the airplane ground looped and nosed over 200 feet from the departure end of runway 03. The pilot stated that "after he rotated the airplane off of the ground at 55 knots, the airplane felt like it did not want to climb." He did not believe that he would be able to climb over trees at the departure end of the runway, so he decided to abort the takeoff with about 400 feet of runway left. During the aborted takeoff, the pilot landed the airplane back on the runway, ground looped the airplane, and the airplane came to rest 200 feet from the end of the runway. Post-accident examination of the airplane revealed that the airplane was inverted, nose gear bent aft, and engine firewall was buckled. The airplane also exhibited damage to the right wing, fuselage, propeller, and engine cowling. Post-accident examination of the flight control surfaces revealed no mechanical failures. The pilot did not report any mechanical malfunction with the airplane. Runway 03 at Johnson Field is a 2070 feet long by 75 feet wide. Performance data for the Piper 22 states that a normal takeoff ground roll is 950 feet and take takeoff to clear a 50 foot obstacle takes 1500 feet.

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 roll, which resulted in a nose over.

Findings

Occurrence #1: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ABORTED

Occurrence #2: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (C) GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND 2. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #3: ROLL OVER

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

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Factual Information

On August 16, 2005 at 1545 eastern daylight time, a Piper 22, N8595C, registered to and operated by a private owner, collided with the ground, and came to rest inverted, during an aborted takeoff at Johnson Field Airport, Archdale, North Carolina. The flight was operated under provisions of Title 14 CFR Part 91 personal flight. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the time of the accident and a flight plan was not filed. The airplane sustained substantial damage and the private pilot was not injured. The flight originated from Johnson Field, Archdale, North Carolina on August 16, 2005 at 1544.

The pilot was attempting to normal takeoff on runway 03 at Johnson Field, which is a 2070 feet long by 75 feet wide turf/gravel runway. The pilot stated that "after he rotated the airplane off of the ground at 55 knots, the airplane felt like it did not want to climb." The pilot did not believe that he would be able to climb over trees at the departure end of the runway, So, the pilot decided to abort the takeoff with about 400 feet of runway left. During the aborted takeoff, the pilot landed the airplane back on the runway, "ground looped the airplane, and came to rest 200 feet from the end of the runway.

Post-accident examination of the airplane revealed that the airplane was inverted, nose gear bent aft, and engine firewall was buckled. The airplane also exhibited damage to the right wing, fuselage, propeller, and engine cowling. Post-accident examination of the flight control surfaces revealed no mechanical failures. The pilot did not report any mechanical malfunction with the airplane. Performance data for the Piper 22 states that a normal takeoff ground roll is 950 feet and take takeoff to clear a 50 foot obstacle takes 1500 feet.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	36,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 None	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 1, 2003
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 1, 2004
Flight Time:	20 hours (Total, all aircraft), 20 hours (Total, this make and model)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N8595C
Model/Series:	22	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	22-1266
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1850 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	0-290 SERIES
Registered Owner:	HARRIS KEITH	Rated Power:	135 Horsepower
Operator:	KEITH HARRIS	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	GS0,926 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	14:54 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	359°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	9 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots / 0 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	270°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.04 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	34°C / 23°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	ARCHDALE, NC (72A)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	ARCHDALE, NC	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	15:44 Local	Type of Airspace:	

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Airport Information

Airport:	JOHNSON FIELD 72A	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf;Gravel
Airport Elevation:	0 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	03	IFR Approach:	Visual
Runway Length/Width:	2070 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	35.835556,-79.925277

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Powell, Phillip
Additional Participating Persons:	Tom Harmon; GSO FSDO-05
Original Publish Date:	December 20, 2005
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=62380

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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