



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Big Bear, California	Accident Number:	GAA16CA121
Date & Time:	January 24, 2016, 19:30 Local	Registration:	N1983T
Aircraft:	GLINES KENNETH TAILWIND W 8	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

According to the pilot, during his approach at a non-towered airport at night, he made the descent to what he thought was the runway, but realized that it was actually the taxiway, and "slipped" right, to what he then perceived to be the runway. Upon touchdown, the airplane ground looped and nosed over. The pilot had landed and nosed over in the safety area to the left of the runway.

The pilot reported that he had been flying for the preceding 12 hour period, and conceded to having exceeded his personal endurance limitations. The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings.

The pilot reported that there were no mechanical failures or anomalies with the airplane prior to or during the flight that would have prevented normal flight operation.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's inadvertent landing off the left side of the snow-covered runway, resulting in a ground loop and nose over.

Findings

Personnel issues	Incorrect action performance - Pilot
Aircraft	Descent/approach/glide path - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Lack of sleep - Pilot
Personnel issues	Perception - Pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Approach-VFR pattern final	Attempted remediation/recovery
Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	72, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	January 23, 2015
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 15, 2014
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 2034 hours (Total, all aircraft), 170 hours (Total, this make and model), 25 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	GLINES KENNETH	Registration:	N1983T
Model/Series:	TAILWIND W 8 NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1983	Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental (Special)	Serial Number:	306
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	October 24, 2015 Condition	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1192 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	C91 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-235-JC1B
Registered Owner:	EARHART, ROBERT E	Rated Power:	
Operator:	EARHART, ROBERT E	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Night
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KL35,6752 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	03:15 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	90°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 10000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.07 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	-1°C / -5°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	SAINT JOHNS, AZ (SJN)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	BIG BEAR, CA (L35)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	BIG BEAR CITY L35	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	6752 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Snow
Runway Used:	26	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5850 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Straight-in

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:	34.263889,-116.856109(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	Rod Ealy; Federal Aviation Administration; Riverside, CA
Original Publish Date:	April 5, 2016
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=92694

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