



Aviation Investigation Final Report

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| Location: | Monticello, Georgia | Accident Number: | GAA16CA169 |
| Date & Time: | March 24, 2016, 11:30 Local | Registration: | N127LC |
| Aircraft: | AMERICAN LEGEND AIRCRAFT CO AL3 | Aircraft Damage: | Substantial |
| Defining Event: | Loss of control on ground | Injuries: | 1 Minor |
| Flight Conducted Under: | Part 91: General aviation - Personal | | |

Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that during the landing roll with a quartering tailwind, he lost directional control, departed the runway, and impacted a tree. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage.

According to the pilot there were no preimpact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airframe or engine 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 pilot's decision to land with a quartering tail wind, and failure to maintain directional control during the landing roll, which resulted in runway excursion, and collision with a tree.

Findings

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| Personnel issues | Aircraft control - Pilot |
| Aircraft | Directional control - Not attained/maintained |
| Personnel issues | Decision making/judgment - Pilot |
| Environmental issues | Tailwind - Decision related to condition |
| Environmental issues | Tailwind - Effect on operation |

Factual Information

History of Flight

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| Landing-landing roll | Loss of control on ground (Defining event) |
| Landing-landing roll | Runway excursion |
| Landing-landing roll | Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT) |

Pilot Information

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|----------------------------------|---|--|------------------|
| Certificate: | Commercial; Flight instructor | Age: | 58, Male |
| Airplane Rating(s): | Single-engine land; Multi-engine land | Seat Occupied: | Front |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | None | Restraint Used: | 4-point |
| Instrument Rating(s): | Airplane | Second Pilot Present: | No |
| Instructor Rating(s): | Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane | Toxicology Performed: | No |
| Medical Certification: | Class 3 With waivers/limitations | Last FAA Medical Exam: | October 14, 2014 |
| Occupational Pilot: | No | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: | August 15, 2015 |
| Flight Time: | (Estimated) 1840 hours (Total, all aircraft), 102 hours (Total, this make and model), 1675 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 87 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft) | | |

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aircraft Make: | AMERICAN LEGEND AIRCRAFT CO | Registration: | N127LC |
| Model/Series: | AL3 | Aircraft Category: | Airplane |
| Year of Manufacture: | 2013 | Amateur Built: | |
| Airworthiness Certificate: | Special light-sport (Special) | Serial Number: | AL-1178 |
| Landing Gear Type: | Tailwheel | Seats: | 2 |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | June 18, 2015 Annual | Certified Max Gross Wt.: | 1320 lbs |
| Time Since Last Inspection: | | Engines: | 1 Reciprocating |
| Airframe Total Time: | 111.9 Hrs as of last inspection | Engine Manufacturer: | CONT MOTOR |
| ELT: | C126 installed, not activated | Engine Model/Series: | O-200-D |
| Registered Owner: | Cimarron Flying Service LLC. | Rated Power: | 100 Horsepower |
| Operator: | James R. Nelson II | Operating Certificate(s) Held: | None |

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

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| Conditions at Accident Site: | Visual (VMC) | Condition of Light: | Day |
| Observation Facility, Elevation: | KMLJ,384 ft msl | Distance from Accident Site: | 27 Nautical Miles |
| Observation Time: | 15:35 Local | Direction from Accident Site: | 114° |
| Lowest Cloud Condition: | | Visibility | 10 miles |
| Lowest Ceiling: | Overcast / 5000 ft AGL | Visibility (RVR): | |
| Wind Speed/Gusts: | / | Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual: | / None |
| Wind Direction: | | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | / N/A |
| Altimeter Setting: | 30.1 inches Hg | Temperature/Dew Point: | 21°C / 11°C |
| Precipitation and Obscuration: | No Obscuration; No Precipitation | | |
| Departure Point: | Monticello, GA (GA06) | Type of Flight Plan Filed: | None |
| Destination: | Monticello, GA (GA06) | Type of Clearance: | None |
| Departure Time: | 10:30 Local | Type of Airspace: | Class G |

Airport Information

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| Airport: | MONTICELLO SKY RANCH GA06 | Runway Surface Type: | Grass/turf |
| Airport Elevation: | 690 ft msl | Runway Surface Condition: | Dry |
| Runway Used: | 32 | IFR Approach: | None |
| Runway Length/Width: | 4100 ft / 80 ft | VFR Approach/Landing: | Full stop |

Wreckage and Impact Information

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|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Crew Injuries: | 1 Minor | Aircraft Damage: | Substantial |
| Passenger Injuries: | | Aircraft Fire: | None |
| Ground Injuries: | N/A | Aircraft Explosion: | None |
| Total Injuries: | 1 Minor | Latitude, Longitude: | 33.33361,-83.728057(est) |

Administrative Information

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| Investigator In Charge (IIC): | Vanover, Jackie |
| Additional Participating Persons: | Steven L Davidson; FAA; Atlanta, GA |
| Original Publish Date: | June 1, 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=92921 |

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