



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Grass Valley, California	Accident Number:	GAA16CA242
Date & Time:	May 17, 2016, 16:30 Local	Registration:	N99SZ
Aircraft:	VAN B ANTHONY ZODIAC	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of an experimental amateur built airplane reported that he felt pressured by a trailing airplane while in the traffic pattern; he further reported that this pressure caused him to turn base, and then final sooner than expected, which resulted in an increased airspeed and higher than expected altitude on final approach.

The pilot reported that he decided to proceed with the landing with the intent of utilizing the length of the runway to reduce the airspeed. He further reported that the landing flare was effected by the higher than normal airspeed, and resulted in a hard landing.

During the landing roll, the pilot reported that the airplane began to veer to the left and right which progressively increased, resulting in a runway excursion to the left. During the runway excursion, the airplane impacted a taxiway sign, which disabled the brake(s). The airplane continued across the airport until it impacted a parked airplane on the ramp. As a result of the impact, a post-impact fire ensued and the airplane was destroyed.

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 a stabilized approach and landing, which resulted in a hard landing, loss of directional control, runway excursion, and collision with a parked airplane.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Aircraft	Airspeed - Incorrect use/operation
Environmental issues	Tailwind - Awareness of condition
Environmental issues	Sign/marker - Contributed to outcome
Environmental issues	Aircraft - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Prior to flight	Preflight or dispatch event
Landing	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Hard landing
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion
Landing-landing roll	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
Landing-landing roll	Ground collision

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	75, 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:	Sport pilot None	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 22, 1985
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	February 16, 2016
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 373 hours (Total, all aircraft), 16 hours (Total, this make and model), 317 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 16 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	VAN B ANTHONY	Registration:	N99SZ
Model/Series:	ZODIAC 601 HDS	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2016	Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Experimental light sport (Special)	Serial Number:	6-3029
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	January 2, 2016 Condition	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1320 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	18.8 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	C91 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-200-A
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	100 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KG00,3152 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	01:20 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	54°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	30°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.01 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	26°C / 3°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Grass Valley, CA (GOO)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Grass Valley, CA (GOO)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	14:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	NEVADA COUNTY AIR PARK GOO	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	3154 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	25	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4351 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	On-ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	39.223331,-121.004165(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Vanover, Jackie
Additional Participating Persons:	Tim Janko; FAA; Sacramento, CA
Original Publish Date:	July 25, 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=93198

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