



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: York, South Carolina Accident Number: GAA16CA306

Date & Time: June 11, 2016, 11:30 Local Registration: N319RA

Aircraft: S.O.C.A.T.A. RALLYE 150 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control in flight **Injuries:** 1 Minor, 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot reported that during takeoff in crosswind conditions, after rotation and about 6 feet above the ground, a gust of wind from the right pushed the airplane to the left of the runway toward a group of peach trees. The pilot further reported that he applied additional correction for the crosswind drift but was unable to give full deflection due to the proximity of the airplane above the ground, the left wing impacted the tree(s), and subsequently the airplane spun to the left.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the right wing.

According to the pilot there were no preimpact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airframe or engine that would have precluded normal operation.

A review of recorded data from the automated weather observation station located about 10 miles to the south east, revealed that, about 36 minutes before the accident the wind was 270 degrees true at 8 knots. A further review revealed that, about 24 minutes after the accident the wind was 290 degrees true at 10 knots. The airplane landed on runway 18.

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 takeoff, which resulted in an impact with a peach tree(s).

Findings

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

 Environmental issues
 Crosswind - Effect on operation

 Environmental issues
 Tree(s) - Contributed to outcome

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Other weather encounter
Takeoff	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
Takeoff	Attempted remediation/recovery
Takeoff	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	66,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Lap only
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:	July 8, 2015
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 12, 2015
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 488 hours (Total, all aircraft), 143 hours (Total, this make and model), 380 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Passenger Information

Certificate:		Age:	14,Male
Airplane Rating(s):		Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	Lap only
Instrument Rating(s):		Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:		Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:			

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	S.O.C.A.T.A.	Registration:	N319RA
Model/Series:	RALLYE 150 ST	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1977	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	3068
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 14, 2015 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1913 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1293.5 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	C126 installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-E2A
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	150 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:	KUZA,669 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	10 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	15:54 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	104°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	280°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.14 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	31°C / 20°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	York, SC (01SC)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	WEDDINGTON, NC (NC21)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	11:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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Airport Information

Airport:	YORK 01SC	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	779 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry;Rough
Runway Used:	18	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2580 ft / 118 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	35.028057,-81.252777(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Vanover, Jackie
Additional Participating Persons:	David W Martin; FAA; Columbia, SC
Original Publish Date:	September 12, 2016
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=93372

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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