



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Port St. Lucie, Florida	Accident Number:	GAA16CA510
Date & Time:	September 16, 2016, 19:00 Local	Registration:	N3771F
Aircraft:	Great Lakes 2T1A	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Miscellaneous/other	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of the tandem-seat, tailwheel equipped biplane reported that he was flying from the rear seat which limits his forward view, "especially in the landing configuration". He further reported that during the landing roll on a private grass airstrip, the biplane impacted a drainage pipe, which resulted in a collapsed left landing gear and substantial damage to both lower wings and the lower right aileron.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident 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 failure to avoid the drainage pipe during the landing roll on a private grass airstrip. Contributing to the accident was the pilot's reduced forward view from the rear seat.

Findings

Personnel issues	Monitoring environment - Pilot
Environmental issues	Visibility - Effect on personnel
Environmental issues	(general) - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Miscellaneous/other (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	66, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Rear
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Restraint Used:	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane; Helicopter	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane; Instrument helicopter	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 9, 2016
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 30, 2016
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 14500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 65 hours (Total, this make and model), 14300 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 85 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Great Lakes	Registration:	N3771F
Model/Series:	2T1A 2	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1977	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Aerobatic	Serial Number:	0764
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 10, 2016 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	678 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	AEIO-360-B1G6
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	180 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:	KSUA, 18 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	22:47 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	104°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 5500 ft AGL	Visibility	7 miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	300°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	29°C / 25°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	FORT LAUDERDALE, FL (FXE)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Port St. Lucie, FL (FL37)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	18:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	TREASURE COAST AIRPARK FL37	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	30 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	09	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4000 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

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:	27.240833,-80.488334(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Benhoff, Kathryn
Additional Participating Persons:	Cheryl King; FAA; Orlando, FL
Original Publish Date:	December 15, 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=94080

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