



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	South Boston, Virginia	Accident Number:	GAA17CA281
Date & Time:	May 15, 2017, 16:00 Local	Registration:	N31JP
Aircraft:	Piper PA22	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Other work use		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, during the landing roll, the tailwheel-equipped airplane veered to the left, and he "could not keep the [airplane] on [the] runway using full right rudder." The airplane exited the left side of the runway, continued to turn to the left about 180°, hit an embankment, and the right main landing gear collapsed. Subsequently, the right wing impacted the ground, and the airplane came to rest nose down.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the right wing.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

The pilot reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 060° at 7 knots. The pilot landed on runway 19.

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 the landing roll.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Tailwind - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	(general) - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing	Attempted remediation/recovery
Landing	Runway excursion
Landing	Landing gear collapse
Landing	Nose over/nose down

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	80, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	August 17, 2016
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	October 1, 2016
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 5100 hours (Total, all aircraft), 41 hours (Total, this make and model), 4590 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 25 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N31JP
Model/Series:	PA22 150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1956	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	22-3913
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	February 10, 2017 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2863.5 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	C91 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320 SERIES
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:	KDAN,590 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	25 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	19:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	251°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 6000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots / 15 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	340°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.9 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	28°C / 16°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	DURHAM, NC (8NC8)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	South Boston, VA (W78)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	15:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	WILLIAM M TUCK W78	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	419 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	19	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4003 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Touch and go

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:	36.708889,-78.848052(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Swenson, Eric
Additional Participating Persons:	Stephen Harness; FAA; Richmond, VA
Original Publish Date:	July 20, 2017
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=95180

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