



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Eugene, Oregon	Accident Number:	GAA17CA358
Date & Time:	June 19, 2017, 18:23 Local	Registration:	N234VA
Aircraft:	VANS AIRCRAFT INC RV-12	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

According to the flight school director, the student pilot was conducting stop-and-go landings during a solo flight. He added that the student pilot reported that, during takeoff, the airplane began to "fishtail," the pilot reduced power, but the airplane continued to the left, exited the runway, and impacted a taxiway sign.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the fuselage.

The flight school director reported that, according to the student pilot, there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane 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 student pilot's failure to maintain directional control during takeoff.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Student/instructed pilot
Environmental issues	Sign/marker - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Takeoff	Attempted remediation/recovery
Takeoff	Runway excursion
Takeoff	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Student pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	52, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	5-point
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:	April 11, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 20 hours (Total, all aircraft), 20 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	VANS AIRCRAFT INC	Registration:	N234VA
Model/Series:	RV-12 NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2014	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Special light-sport (Special)	Serial Number:	S12008
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 6, 2017 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1320 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1051.1 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	Rotax
ELT:	C126 installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	912ULS
Registered Owner:	LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Rated Power:	100 Horsepower
Operator:	LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Pilot school (141)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KEUG,373 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	22:54 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	330°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 5000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	310°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.95 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	31°C / 19°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Eugene, OR (EUG)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Eugene, OR (EUG)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	17:20 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	MAHLON SWEET FIELD EUG	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	373 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	34R	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	6000 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

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:	44.121665,-123.215835(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Benhoff, Kathryn
Additional Participating Persons:	Joseph Mollahan; FAA; Portland, OR
Original Publish Date:	August 22, 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=95421

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