



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Panama City, Florida Accident Number: GAA18CA039

Date & Time: November 10, 2017, 11:05 Local Registration: N6547A

Aircraft Cessna 180 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Personal

Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, during the landing roll in gusting crosswind conditions, the right wing "suddenly" lifted, and he applied right aileron to correct. He added that the control application did not correct the raised right wing and that the left wing dragged on the runway, which resulted in the airplane nosing over.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing and vertical stabilizer.

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

The pilot reported in the National Transportation Safety Board Form 6120.1 Pilot/Operator Aircraft Accident/Incident Report that the wind was from 020° at 6 knots, gusting to 17 knots. He added that the landing was on runway 34.

An automated weather observation station at the airport reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 010° at 13 knots, gusting to 17 knots.

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 lateral/bank control during landing in gusting crosswind conditions.

Findings

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Pilot

Aircraft Lateral/bank control - Not attained/maintained

Environmental issues Crosswind - Effect on operation

Environmental issues Gusts - Effect on operation

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Other weather encounter	
Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)	
Landing-landing roll	Dragged wing/rotor/float/other	
Landing-landing roll	Nose over/nose down	

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	48,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:	December 21, 2015
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	February 7, 2016
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 388 hours (Total, all aircraft), 261 hours (Total, this make and model), 388 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 49 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N6547A
Model/Series:	180 UNDESIGNAT	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1956	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	32444
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 9, 2017 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2950 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	3188.1 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	C91A installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-470-R15B
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	230 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:	KECP,68 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	17:13 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	13 knots / 17 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	10°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.15 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	20°C / 11°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipita	ation	
Departure Point:	SEVIERVILLE, TN (GKT)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Panama City, FL (ECP)	Type of Clearance:	VFR flight following
Departure Time:	09:16 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

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Airport Information

Airport:	NORTHWEST FLORIDA BEACHES INTL ECP	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Airport Elevation:	68 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	34	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	10000 ft / 150 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:	30.358333,-85.795555(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Gerhardt, Adam	
Additional Participating Persons:	Nina McBride; FAA/ FSDO; Vestavia Hills, AL	
Original Publish Date:	February 21, 2018	
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=96315	

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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