



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Louisa, Virginia	<b>Accident Number:</b>	GAA19CA276
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	May 22, 2019, 17:00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N30683
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper J3C	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of control on ground	<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot reported that, during landing and while decelerating, the airplane veered left. He applied full right rudder, but there was "little to no change in the yaw" with the control stick full aft. He added that the tailwheel had "unlocked" when it contacted the runway because the airplane yawed left. He added engine power to increase airflow for better rudder effectiveness, and the airplane began to straighten out, but it then exited the runway to the left, and the right main landing gear collapsed. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the right-wing lift strut. The pilot reported that 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 pilot's failure to maintain directional control during landing, which resulted in a runway excursion and the landing gear collapsing.

## Findings

<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot
<b>Aircraft</b>	Directional control - Not attained/maintained



## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Landing</b>	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
<b>Landing</b>	Attempted remediation/recovery
<b>Landing</b>	Runway excursion
<b>Landing</b>	Landing gear collapse

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Airline transport; Commercial; Flight instructor	<b>Age:</b>	31, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Front
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Lap only
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Airplane single-engine	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 1 Without waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	February 20, 2019
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	Yes	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	May 11, 2019
<b>Flight Time:</b>	(Estimated) 5770 hours (Total, all aircraft), 72 hours (Total, this make and model), 1908 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 128 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 47 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Pilot-rated passenger Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Airline transport; Commercial; Flight instructor	<b>Age:</b>	31, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Center
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Lap only
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Airplane single-engine	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 1 With waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	April 11, 2019
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	(Estimated)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Piper	<b>Registration:</b>	N30683
<b>Model/Series:</b>	J3C 65	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1940	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	5046
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	March 1, 2019 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1100 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	2762 Hrs at time of accident	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Continental
<b>ELT:</b>	C91 installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	A-65-8
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	On file	<b>Rated Power:</b>	65 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KLKU,493 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	0 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	20:55 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	270°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	None / None
<b>Wind Direction:</b>		<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	N/A / N/A
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.27 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	23°C / 10°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Louisa, VA (LKU )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Louisa, VA (LKU )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	16:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	LOUISA COUNTY/FREEMAN FIELD LKU	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	493 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	27	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	4300 ft / 100 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop;Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	2 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	38.009998,-77.967224(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Benhoff, Kathryn
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Joseph A Lewis; FAA; Richmond, VA
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	April 13, 2020
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=99473">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=99473</a>

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