



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Vinton, Iowa	Accident Number:	GAA18CA317
Date & Time:	May 28, 2018, 15:06 Local	Registration:	N84163
Aircraft:	Aeronca 7AC	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, after overflying the airport to determine the wind direction, she landed in variable crosswind conditions. During touchdown "at or near stall speed," the tailwheel-equipped airplane encountered a wind gust. She added that the airplane veered left and that she attempted to correct with immediate application of right rudder and right brake. Subsequently, the airplane exited the left side of the runway into the grass, and the right wingtip struck the ground. She added that she was able to taxi the airplane to park.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the right wing, right wing spar, and 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.

The automated weather observation system located at the accident airport reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was from 140° at 11 knots, gusting to 18 knots. The pilot landed on runway 34.

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 while landing in gusting tailwind conditions.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Tailwind - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	Gusts - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Other weather encounter
Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Attempted remediation/recovery
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Sport Pilot	Age:	18,Female
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
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:	Sport pilot Unknown	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	July 12, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 86.3 hours (Total, all aircraft), 19.7 hours (Total, this make and model), 40.9 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 9.6 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1.5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Aeronca	Registration:	N84163
Model/Series:	7AC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1946	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	7AC-2849
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	February 3, 2018 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1220 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	988 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	A65-8
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	
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:	KVTI, 845 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	20:15 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	342°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility:	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	11 knots / 18 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	140°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.89 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	36°C / 17°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Grinnell, IA (GGI)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Vinton, IA (VTI)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	13:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	VINTON VETERANS MEMORIAL ARPK VT1	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	842 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	34	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2500 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Go around;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	42.218612,-92.025833(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Swenson, Eric
Additional Participating Persons:	Kendall Arkema; FAA; Des Moines, IA
Original Publish Date:	November 5, 2018
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97386

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