



AVIATION



HIGHWAY



MARINE



RAILROAD



PIPELINE

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Fairhope, Alabama	Accident Number:	GAA18CA332
Date & Time:	June 8, 2018, 10:00 Local	Registration:	N17473
Aircraft:	Waco YKS 7	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 biplane reported that, while landing with a "slight cross wind," the biplane ground looped to the right.

The biplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing.

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

The automated weather observation system located at the airport reported that, about the time of the accident, the wind was calm. 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 while landing.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	72, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Lap only
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	BasicMed None	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 22, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	December 16, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1200 hours (Total, all aircraft), 83 hours (Total, this make and model), 931 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 4.6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4.6 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Waco	Registration:	N17473
Model/Series:	YKS 7 NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1937	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	4611
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	5
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 16, 2018 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3250 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2483 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Jacobs
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	R755B2M
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	275 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:	KCQF, 92 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	14:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	183°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.1 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	28°C / 22°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Fairhope, AL (CQF)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Fairhope, AL (CQF)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	09:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	H L SONNY CALLAHAN CQF	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	91 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	19	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	6604 ft / 100 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:	30.460832, -87.876945(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Swenson, Eric
Additional Participating Persons:	Tim Hayes; FAA; Vestavia Hills, AL
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=97444

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).