



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	DeWitt, Arkansas	Accident Number:	CEN24LA044
Date & Time:	November 22, 2023, 12:15 Local	Registration:	N84692
Aircraft:	Aeronca 7AC	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that upon landing a crosswind “pushed” the airplane off the runway. The airplane encountered a ditch, crossed a taxiway, and impacted a fence. The airplane sustained damage to the fuselage, both wings, and the left-wing strut. The pilot reported that there were no preaccident failures or malfunctions with the airplane which 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 loss of airplane directional control while landing.

Findings

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

Factual Information

History of Flight

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

Certificate:	Private	Age:	69,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	BasicMed With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 22, 2021
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	October 27, 2022
Flight Time:	931 hours (Total, all aircraft), 156 hours (Total, this make and model), 891 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Aeronca	Registration:	N84692
Model/Series:	7AC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1946	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	7AC-3401
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	August 10, 2023 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	1.2 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	7421.5 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	C91A installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	C-85-12F
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	85 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:	On file	Operator Designator Code:	N/A

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KSGT, 224 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	24 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	12:32 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	327°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 2800 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots / 0 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	280°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.17 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	11°C / 4°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Lonoke, AR (1AR9)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	DeWitt, AR (5M1)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	11:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	Dewitt Municipal 5M1	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	189 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	36	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3205 ft / 60 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop; Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	34.262278, -91.3075

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Sorensen, Timothy
Additional Participating Persons:	Nathan Bradshaw; FAA Flight Standards; Little Rock, AR
Original Publish Date:	January 4, 2024
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=193417

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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](#).