



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Lubbock, Texas	Accident Number:	CEN24LA131
Date & Time:	March 5, 2024, 17:30 Local	Registration:	N603LH
Aircraft:	Piper PA-28-140	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

After the student pilot completed three successful takeoff and landings with his instructor, he began his initial solo flight. The first takeoff and landing were uneventful. Following the second approach, the student pilot made a successful landing and initiated a touch-and-go by advancing the throttle to maximum power. The student pilot noted that once the airplane reached rotation speed and he added aft control pressure, the nose wheel began to lift and bounce during rotation. The airplane veered left and exited the left side of the runway. The right wing impacted the runway which resulted in substantial damage. The airplane came to rest upright in the grass adjacent to the runway.

The student pilot did not report any preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures 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 student pilot's failure to maintain directional control during a touch-and-go.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Student/instructed pilot
Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Takeoff	Runway excursion

Student pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	20,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	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:	
Medical Certification:	Class 1 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	January 31, 2024
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	15.2 hours (Total, all aircraft), 12.2 hours (Total, this make and model), 7.3 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 7.3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N603LH
Model/Series:	PA-28-140	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1964	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	Serial Number:	28-20030
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	November 12, 2023 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2150 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	92 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2661 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	C91 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-E2A
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	140 Horsepower
Operator:	Hub City Aviation Academy LLC	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Pilot school (141)
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:	KLBB,3282 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	17:30 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	170°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 9500 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots / 0 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	140°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.9 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	21°C / 1°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Lubbock, TX (KLBB)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Lubbock, TX	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	17:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class C

Airport Information

Airport:	Lubbock Preston Smith International LBB	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Airport Elevation:	3282 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	17R	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	11500 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Touch and go;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	33.676283,-101.826(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Sorensen, Timothy
Additional Participating Persons:	Peter Keck; FAA Flight Standards; Lubbock, TX
Original Publish Date:	April 12, 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=193911

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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](#).