

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Martinsville, Virginia Accident Number: ERA24LA052

Date & Time: November 30, 2023, 11:30 Local Registration: N9564K

Aircraft: Stinson 108-2 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: Loss of control on ground **Injuries:** 2 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General aviation - Instructional

Analysis

The private pilot was flying with a flight instructor and was working towards his tailwheel endorsement. During a wheel landing attempt with a direct crosswind from the left, the airplane swerved, and the pilot attempted to make a correction by applying right rudder. Subsequently, the airplane ground looped before the flight instructor could take control of the airplane, and the left wing and left elevator struck the runway surface. Following the ground loop, the pilot continued the taxi to the ramp without further incident. The fuselage, left wing, and left elevator sustained substantial damage. The pilot and flight instructor reported that there were no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures 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 a wheel landing in crosswind conditions and the flight instructor's delayed remedial action, which resulted in a ground loop on the runway.

Findings

Personnel issues Aircraft control - Student/instructed pilot

Aircraft Directional control - Not attained/maintained

Personnel issues Delayed action - Instructor/check pilot

Environmental issues Crosswind - Response/compensation

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Abnormal runway contact

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	69,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Lap only
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	October 4, 2022
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	April 24, 2023
Flight Time:	211 hours (Total, all aircraft), 11 hours (Total, this make and model), 121 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 18 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Flight instructor Information

Certificate:	Airline transport; Flight engineer; Flight instructor	Age:	66,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Lap only
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Sport pilot With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	October 23, 2023
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	March 3, 2022
Flight Time:	28542 hours (Total, all aircraft), 20485 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 24 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Stinson	Registration:	N9564K
Model/Series:	108-2	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1947	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	108-2564
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	April 24, 2023 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2230 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	11 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2043 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Franklin
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	6A4-165-B3
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	165 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:	MTV,941 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	10:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	331°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	250°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	30.25 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	10°C / -6°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Martinsville, VA	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Martinsville, VA	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class G

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Airport Information

Airport:	BLUE RIDGE MTV	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	940 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	13/31	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5002 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	36.630427,-80.017605(est)

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Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Enders, Ryan
Additional Participating Persons:	Pete Hantelman; FAA/FSDO; Richmond, VA
Original Publish Date:	January 25, 2024
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=193457

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

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.

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