



AVIATION



HIGHWAY



MARINE



RAILROAD



PIPELINE

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Indianola, Mississippi	Accident Number:	CEN23LA427
Date & Time:	June 13, 2023, 22:35 Local	Registration:	UNREG
Aircraft:	Quad City Challenger	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

According to the airport manager, the non-certificated pilot attempted to land the light sport airplane at night. The airplane was not equipped with a two-way radio to activate the airport's pilot-controlled runway lights. The pilot's first landing attempt resulted in a go-around. After the go-around, the pilot called and asked a friend to shine headlights from a vehicle to illuminate the runway. On the second landing attempt, the airplane landed hard, bounced, and the pilot attempted a go-around. During the go-around the airplane impacted a beanfield. The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings and the fuselage.

The pilot did not return the National Transportation Safety Board Pilot/Operator Aircraft Accident/Incident Report Form 6120.1.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The non-certificated pilot's loss of control during the night landing.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	Dark - Effect on operation
Personnel issues	Qualification/certification - Pilot
Personnel issues	Decision making/judgment - Pilot

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-aborted after touchdown	Attempted remediation/recovery
Approach-VFR go-around	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	None	Age:	54,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	None	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	(Estimated)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Quad City	Registration:	UNREG
Model/Series:	Challenger II	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	Yes
Airworthiness Certificate:	Unknown	Serial Number:	UNK
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Night
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KGLH	Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	22:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / Unknown
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.81 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	23°C / 21°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	
Destination:	Indianola, MS	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	INDIANOLA MUNI IDL	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Airport Elevation:	126 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	18/36	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	7004 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Go around;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	33.484907,-90.678996(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Rutt, Brian

Additional Participating Persons: Albert McCray; FAA

Original Publish Date: February 1, 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=193477>

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](#).