



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Reidsville, North Carolina	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ERA23LA244
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	May 23, 2023, 12:45 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N8992J
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA28	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of control on ground	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

## Analysis

The solo student pilot described that, during the landing approach, there was a crosswind from the right. When the airplane touched down, it drifted to the left. The pilot attempted to correct by applying right rudder, but the airplane departed the left side of the runway and continued through a ditch, resulting in substantial damage to the empennage. The pilot reported that there were no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures of 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 of the airplane while landing in a crosswind.

## Findings

<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot
<b>Aircraft</b>	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Crosswind - Response/compensation

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Landing	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Runway excursion

### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Sport Pilot	Age:	28,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	September 29, 2022
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	47 hours (Total, all aircraft), 47 hours (Total, this make and model), 5.1 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 14 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5.7 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2.1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N8992J
Model/Series:	PA28 180	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1965	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	28-3016
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 3, 2023 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:	80 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6430 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	O-360
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	180
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KSIF,693 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	0 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	12:45 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	136°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	6 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	80°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.21 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	22°C / 9°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Hickory, NC (HKY)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Reidsville, NC	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	12:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Rockingham County SIF	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	693 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	13	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	5200 ft / 100 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Touch and go;Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	36.438941,-79.853334(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Diaz, Dennis

**Additional Participating Persons:** Richard A. Brown; FAA/FSDO; Portland, ME

**Original Publish Date:** July 7, 2023

**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=192236>

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