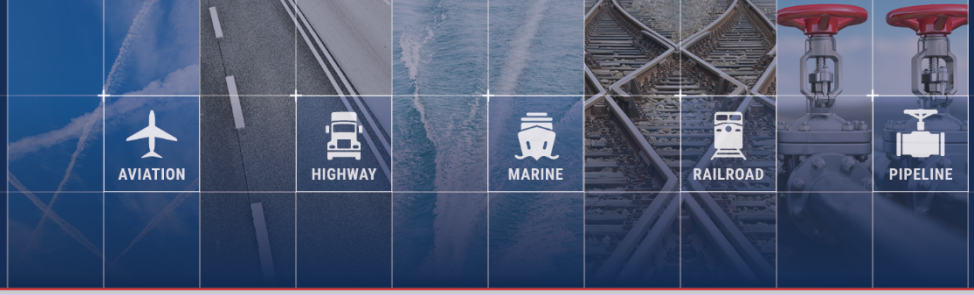

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Santa Fe, New Mexico	**Accident Number:**	WPR23LA209
Date & Time:	May 30, 2023, 14:05 Local	**Registration:**	N69PV
Aircraft:	PIPISTREL DOO AJDOVSCINA VIRUS SW	**Aircraft Damage:**	Unknown
Defining Event:	Hard landing	**Injuries:**	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that he experienced severe turbulence within about 10 miles of the airport as he was approaching to land. He further reported that during the landing, the airplane encountered a downdraft and bounced on touchdown. The airplane exited the runway to the left onto an adjacent grass area and nosed over, resulting in substantial damage to the right wing. The pilot reported there were no preaccident mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation during landing.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

An encounter with a downdraft during landing that resulted in a hard landing and the pilot's loss of control.

Findings

Aircraft	Landing flare - Capability exceeded
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Environmental issues	(general) - Effect on operation
Aircraft	Descent rate - Attain/maintain not possible

Factual Information

History of Flight

Approach-VFR pattern final	Other weather encounter
Landing-flare/touchdown	Hard landing (Defining event)
Landing-landing roll	Nose over/nose down

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	**Age:**	76
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	**Seat Occupied:**	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	**Restraint Used:**	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	**Second Pilot Present:**	
Instructor Rating(s):	None	**Toxicology Performed:**	
Medical Certification:	None	**Last FAA Medical Exam:**	
Occupational Pilot:	No	**Last Flight Review or Equivalent:**	July 15, 2022
Flight Time:	5600 hours (Total, all aircraft), 330 hours (Total, this make and model), 26 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPISTREL DOO AJDOVSCINA	**Registration:**	N69PV
Model/Series:	VIRUS SW	**Aircraft Category:**	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		**Amateur Built:**	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	**Serial Number:**	709 SWN 100
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	**Seats:**	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 9, 2023 Condition	**Certified Max Gross Wt.:**	1322 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	5 Hrs	**Engines:**	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	210 Hrs at time of accident	**Engine Manufacturer:**	Rotax
ELT:	Not installed	**Engine Model/Series:**	912ULS
Registered Owner:	On file	**Rated Power:**	100 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:	KSAF,6287 ft msl	**Distance from Accident Site:**	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:53 Local	**Direction from Accident Site:**	221°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	**Visibility**	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	**Visibility (RVR):**	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	**Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:**	/
Wind Direction:	240°	**Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:**	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.08 inches Hg	**Temperature/Dew Point:**	26°C / -6°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Moriarty, NM (0E0)	**Type of Flight Plan Filed:**	None
Destination:	Sante Fe, NM (KSAF)	**Type of Clearance:**	None
Departure Time:	15:00 Local	**Type of Airspace:**	Class D

Airport Information

Airport:	Santa Fe Municipal Airport SAF	**Runway Surface Type:**	Concrete
Airport Elevation:	6348 ft msl	**Runway Surface Condition:**	Dry
Runway Used:	33	**IFR Approach:**	None
Runway Length/Width:	8366 ft / 150 ft	**VFR Approach/Landing:**	Full stop;Precautionary landing;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	**Aircraft Damage:**	Unknown
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	**Aircraft Fire:**	None
Ground Injuries:		**Aircraft Explosion:**	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	**Latitude, Longitude:**	35.617111,-106.08941(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Basti, Paymaun
Additional Participating Persons:	Vernon Rocket; FAA FSDO; Albuquerque, NM
Original Publish Date:	November 16, 2023
Last Revision Date:	June 20, 2024
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=192303