



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	Maysville, NC	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ERA11CA174
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	03/02/2011, 1430 EST	<b>Registration:</b>	N23249
<b>Aircraft:</b>	PIPER J3C-65	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Serious, 1 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot-in-command (PIC) of the tailwheel airplane stated that he was flying from his private airstrip, with a friend who was also a pilot. The friend did not have much experience in tailwheel airplanes and had not flown the airplane from the airstrip. The PIC completed two takeoffs and landings uneventfully, and then let his friend perform the third takeoff. During the takeoff roll, as the tailwheel lifted, the airplane yawed to the left. The PIC then took authority of the controls and attempted to correct the yaw. The airplane traveled off the left side of the runway and impacted trees, resulting in substantial damage to the fuselage and left wing. The PIC reported no preimpact mechanical anomalies with the airplane and added that the wind was light and variable at the time. The PIC stated that he should have taken control of the airplane sooner.

## Flight Events

Takeoff - Loss of control on ground  
Takeoff - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot-rated passenger's loss of directional control during takeoff and the pilot's delayed remedial action, which resulted in a runway excursion and collision with trees.

## Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Directional control-Not attained/maintained - C  
Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private; Sport Pilot	<b>Age:</b>	68
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	2000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1825 hours (Total, this make and model), 1900 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Other Flight Crew Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	62
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 1287 hours (Total, all aircraft), 0 hours (Total, this make and model)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	PIPER	Registration:	N23249
Model/Series:	J3C-65	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Tommy R McFalls	Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	A65
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	EWN, 18 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots, 270°
Temperature:	18° C / -3° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Maysville, NC (NONE)	Destination:	Maysville, NC (NONE)

## Airport Information

Airport:	Private Airstrip (NONE)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Runway Used:	09	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	1000 ft / 80 ft		

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Robert J Gretz	Adopted Date:	06/08/2011
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	<a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=78478">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=78478</a>		

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