



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Sugar Land, TX	Accident Number:	CEN11CA450
Date & Time:	07/02/2011, 1500 CDT	Registration:	N79RA
Aircraft:	AMERICAN CHAMPION AIRCRAFT 7GCBC	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 Minor, 1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

Following a cross-country flight, the pilot lost directional control of the tailwheel-equipped airplane during the landing roll. The airplane exited the side of the runway and ground-looped before coming to rest in an upright position. During the ground-loop, the right wheel broke off and the right wing sustained substantial damage when it impacted the ground. The pilot reported 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 landing.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)

Factual Information

History of Flight

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

Certificate:	Private	Age:	45, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With Waivers/Limitations	Last Medical Exam:	01/07/2010
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	12/22/2010
Flight Time:	248 hours (Total, all aircraft), 33 hours (Total, this make and model), 177 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 13 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	AMERICAN CHAMPION AIRCRAFT	Registration:	N79RA
Model/Series:	7GCBC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	1312-2001
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	06/22/2011, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	840 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-B2B
Registered Owner:	Anson Air LLC	Rated Power:	160 hp
Operator:	Anson Air LLC	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:		Observation Time:	
Distance from Accident Site:		Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:		Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Temperature/Dew Point:	36°C / 19°C
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	6 knots, 130°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	30.02 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Spring, TX (DWH)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Sugar Land, TX (SGR)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1450 CDT	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Sugar Land Regional (SGR)	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	17	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	8000 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Straight-in

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Timothy LeBaron	Adopted Date:	10/17/2011
Additional Participating Persons:	Regina Brock; Federal Aviation Administration; Houston, TX		
Publish Date:	10/17/2011		
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=80997		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report.