



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Stafford, KS	Accident Number:	GAA17CA234
Date & Time:	04/09/2017, 1200 CDT	Registration:	N55067
Aircraft:	BELLANCA 8KCAB	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot of a tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, during the takeoff roll, as the airplane crested a hill about a third of the way down the grass runway, the airplane was close to the right edge of the runway. He added that he could not clearly distinguish the runway edges and applied left rudder, but in doing so, the airplane departed the runway surface to the left and nosed over in rough muddy terrain.

The left wing sustained substantial damage.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident 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 the takeoff roll.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause)
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)
Environmental issues	Wet/muddy terrain - Contributed to outcome Rough terrain - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Runway excursion Loss of control on ground (Defining event) Nose over/nose down Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	86, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	5-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With Waivers/Limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	03/02/2017
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	03/24/2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 21038 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1464 hours (Total, this make and model), 20772 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 26 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 11 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BELLANCA	Registration:	N55067
Model/Series:	8KCAB NO SERIES	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1978	Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Aerobatic; Normal	Serial Number:	428-78
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	01/03/2017, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2679.25 Hours at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	C91 installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	AEIO-320-ETE
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	150 hp
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KPTT, 1952 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1655 UTC	Direction from Accident Site:	180°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.62 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	18° C / 9° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	STAFFORD, KS (3TA)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	LARNED, KS (LQR)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1200 CDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	STAFFORD MUNI (3TA)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	1886 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry; Rough; Vegetation
Runway Used:	13	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	1900 ft / 80 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	37.958333, -98.650278 (est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Adam M Gerhardt	Report Date:	07/05/2017
Additional Participating Persons:	Robert Nash; FAA/ FSDO; Wichita, KS		
Publish Date:	07/05/2017		
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=95010		

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