

National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, DC 20594

Brief of Accident

Adopted 04/01/2003

DEN02LA058
File No. 12750 06/24/2002 Giddings, TX Aircraft Reg No. N83DH Time (Local): 11:00 CDT

Make/Model:	American Champion (ACAC) / 8KCAB	Fatal	0	Serious	0	Minor/None	1
Engine Make/Model:	Lycoming / AEIO-360 H1B	Crew	0				
Aircraft Damage:	Substantial	Pass	0		0		0
Number of Engines:	1						
Operating Certificate(s):	None						
Type of Flight Operation:	Personal						
Reg. Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation						

Last Depart. Point:	Houston, TX	Condition of Light:	Day
Destination:	Same as Accident/Incident Location	Weather Info Src:	Weather Observation Facility
Airport Proximity:	On Airport	Basic Weather:	Visual Conditions
Airport Name:	Giddings-Lee County Arpt	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Runway Identification:	17	Visibility:	10.00 SM
Runway Length/Width (Ft):	3998 / 75	Wind Dir/Speed:	/ 003 Kts
Runway Surface:	Asphalt	Temperature (°C):	30
Runway Surface Condition:		Precip/Obscuration:	None / None

Pilot-in-Command	Age: 53	Flight Time (Hours)
Certificate(s)/Rating(s)		Total All Aircraft: 563
Private; Single-engine Land		Last 90 Days: 5
Instrument Ratings		Total Make/Model: 320
None		Total Instrument Time: UnK/Nr

The pilot said that he was landing on runway 17, and the airplane suddenly veered "hard" to the right and exited the runway. The left main axle support structure failed, and the left main wheel separated from the airplane. The left strut dug into the ground, and the airplane came to rest on its left wing. The outer 6 feet of the left wing was bent up approximately 35 degrees, and the left side of the elevator was bent. The pilot estimated the wind, at the time of the accident, to be 240 degrees at 3 to 5 knots.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

DEN02LA058
File No. 12750

06/24/2002

Giddings, TX

Aircraft Reg No. N83DH

Time (Local): 11:00 CDT

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT OBTAINED/MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

3. TERRAIN CONDITION - GROUND

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows.
the failure of the pilot to maintain aircraft control during the landing rollout. A contributing factor was the subsequent inadvertent ground loop of the airplane.