

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD PILOT/OPERATOR AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT

This form to be used for reporting civil and public aircraft accidents and incidents

BASIC INFORMATION

Accident/Incident Location

Nearest City/Place: Merrill State: WI
 ZIP: 54452 Country: USA
 Latitude: 45.24 Longitude: 89.62
(Enter in decimal degrees or degrees:minutes:seconds)

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 05/11/2021 Local Time: Approx 1500
mm/dd/yyyy Time Zone: CDT

Collision with Other Aircraft: ☐ Midair ☐ On-ground ☒ None

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N793Y

Manufacturer: Beech

Model: C-23 Sundowner

Serial Number: M-2184

Year of Manufacture: 1978

Amateur-Built: ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes: ☐ Kit/Plans ☐ Original Design Make: _____

☒ IFR-Equipped and Certified
☐ Commercial Space Flight
☐ Unmanned Aircraft

Maximum Gross Weight: 2450 lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: Approx 2182 lbs

Number of Seats: 4 Flight Crew Seats: 2

Cabin Crew Seats: 0 Passenger Seats: 2

Number of Engines: 1

Category of Aircraft

- ☒ Airplane
- ☐ Balloon
- ☐ Blimp/Dirigible
- ☐ Glider
- ☐ Gyroplane
- ☐ Helicopter
- ☐ Powered Lift
- ☐ Rocket
- ☐ Ultralight
- ☐ Unknown

Type of Airworthiness Certificate (Check all that apply)

- | Standard | Special |
|--|---|
| ☒ Normal | ☐ Restricted |
| ☐ Aerobatic | ☐ Limited |
| ☐ Balloon | ☐ Provisional |
| ☐ Commuter | ☐ Special Flight |
| ☐ Transport | ☐ Experimental |
| ☐ Utility | ☐ Special Light-Sport |
| | ☐ Experimental Light-Sport |
- ☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ None ☐ Unknown

Landing Gear

(Check all that apply)

- ☐ Retractable
- ☒ Tricycle ☐ Tailwheel
- ☐ Amphibian ☐ High Skid
- ☐ Emergency Float ☐ Skid
- ☐ Float ☐ Ski
- ☐ Hull ☐ Ski/Wheel
- ☐ Other Launch/Recovery System
- ☐ None ☐ Unknown

Engine Type (Select one)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| ☒ Reciprocating | ☐ Liquid Rocket |
| ☐ Turbo Shaft | ☐ Solid Rocket |
| ☐ Turbo Prop | ☐ Hybrid Rocket |
| ☐ Turbo Jet | ☐ None |
| ☐ Turbo Fan | ☐ Unknown |
| ☐ Electric | |

Fuel System Type (Reciprocating)

- ☒ Carburetor ☐ Fuel-Injected

Engine	Engine Manufacturer	Engine Model/Series	Manufacturer's Serial Number	Date of Mfg. <i>mm dd yyyy</i>	Rated Power ☒ Horsepower or ☐ lbs of Thrust	Total Time (hours)	Time Since: Inspection (hours)	Overhaul (hours)
Eng. 1	Lycoming	O-360-A2G	L-13418-36A	?	180	4055	57	839
Eng. 2								
Eng. 3								
Eng. 4								

Last Inspection Type

- ☒ 100-Hour ☐ Continuous Airworthiness
☐ AAIP ☐ Conditional Inspection
☐ Annual ☐ Unknown

Date Last Inspection: 02/24/2021
mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 4419.3 hrs

hours measured at (Select one)

- ☐ Last Inspection ☒ Time of Accident/Incident

Type of Maintenance Program (Select one)

- ☒ Annual
- ☐ Conditional (Amateur-built only)
- ☐ Manufacturer's Inspection Program
- ☐ Other Approved Inspection Program (AAIP)
- ☐ Continuous Airworthiness
- ☐ Other, specify: _____

Description of Fire Extinguishing System

- ☒ None
☐ Specify: _____

Propeller 1

- ☒ Fixed Pitch
☐ Controllable Pitch
☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: Sensenich

Model: 76EM8s5-0-60

Propeller 2

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
☐ Controllable Pitch
☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

ELT Installed: ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes:

ELT Manufacturer: Ack Technologies

Model or Part No.: E-04

TSO No.: ☐ C91 (121.5 MHz) ☒ C91a (121.5 MHz)
☒ C126 (406 MHz)

Was ELT still mounted in aircraft? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Was ELT still connected to antenna? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Did ELT Activate? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If activated:

Did ELT Aid in Locating Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ No

If not activated:

- Indicate Reason: ☐ Impact Damage
☐ Fire Damage
☐ Battery Expired/Damaged
☐ Unknown

Additional Equipment (Check all that apply)

- ☒ ADS-B
- ☐ Airframe Parachute
- ☐ Angle of Attack Indicator
- ☒ Autopilot
- ☐ Data Recorder
- ☐ Electronic Flight Bag or Handheld Device
- ☐ Electronic Multifunction Display
- ☒ Electronic Primary Flight Display
- ☐ Handheld GPS
- ☐ Heads Up Display
- ☐ Onboard Weather
- ☐ Satellite Tracking Device
- ☒ Stall Warning System
- ☐ Video Recording Device
- ☐ Other, Specify: _____

OWNER/OPERATOR INFORMATION**Registered Aircraft Owner**Name: Park City Flight Training, LLCCity: MerrillState: WI ZIP: 54452Fractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ NoCountry: USA**Operator of Aircraft** ☒ Same As Registered Owner☒ Same Address as Registered Owner

Name: _____

City: _____

Doing Business As: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Air Carrier/Operator Designator (4 Character Code): _____

Country: _____

Operating Certificates Held

(Check all that apply)

- ☒ None
☐ Flag Carrier Operating Certificate (FAR 121)
☐ Supplemental
☐ Air Cargo
☐ Foreign Air Carriers (FAR 129)
☐ Rotorcraft External Load (FAR 133)
☐ Commuter Air Carrier (FAR 135)
☐ On-Demand Air Taxi (FAR 135)
☐ Commercial Air Tour (FAR 136)
☐ Agricultural Aircraft (FAR 137)
☐ Pilot School (FAR 141)
☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ Commercial Space Transportation
Experimental Permit
☐ Commercial Space Transportation License
☐ Other Operator of Large Aircraft

Regulation Flight Conducted Under

- ☒ FAR 91 ☐ FAR 129 ☐ FAR 415
☐ FAR 103 ☐ FAR 133 ☐ FAR 431
☐ FAR 121 ☐ FAR 135 ☐ FAR 435
☐ FAR 125 ☐ FAR 137 ☐ FAR 437

- ☐ FAR 91 Special Flight
☐ Non-US, Commercial
☐ Non-US, Non-commercial

☐ Public Aircraft (Select one)

- ☐ Armed Forces
☐ Federal
☐ State
☐ Local

☐ Unknown**Revenue Operation for FAR 121, 125, 129, 135**
(Select one for each group)

- ☐ Scheduled or Commuter ☐ Domestic
☐ Non-Scheduled or Air Taxi ☐ International

- ☐ Passenger
☐ Cargo
☐ Mail Contract Only

Purpose of Flight for FAR 91, 103, 133, 137

(Select one)

- ☐ Aerial Application ☐ Firefighting ☐ Unknown
☐ Aerial Observation ☐ Flight Test
☐ Air Drop ☐ Glider Tow
☐ Air Race/Show ☐ Instructional
☐ Banner Tow ☐ Other Work Use
☐ Business ☒ Personal
☐ Executive/Corporate ☐ Positioning
☐ External Load ☐ Skydiving
☐ Ferry

Revenue Sightseeing Flight☐ Yes ☒ No**Air Medical Flight**☐ Yes ☒ No**AIRPORT INFORMATION** (Fill in if accident/incident occurred on approach, landing, takeoff, departure, or within 3 miles of an airport)

Airport Name: _____

Distance From Airport Center: _____ sm

Airport Identifier: _____

Direction From Airport: _____ degrees true

Proximity to Airport: ☐ Off Airport/Airstrip ☐ On Airport/Airstrip ☐ N/A

Airport Elevation: _____ ft. msl

Runway Information

Runway ID: _____ (L/R/C) Length: _____ ft Width: _____ ft

Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Asphalt ☐ Grass/Turf ☐ Macadam ☐ Water
☐ Concrete ☐ Gravel ☐ Metal/Wood
☐ Dirt ☐ Ice ☐ Snow ☐ Unknown

Condition of Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Dry ☐ Snow-Compacted ☐ Water-Calm
☐ Holes ☐ Snow-Crusted ☐ Water-Choppy
☐ Ice Covered ☐ Snow-Dry ☐ Water-Glassy
☐ Rough ☐ Snow-Wet ☐ Wet
☐ Rubber Deposits ☐ Soft
☐ Slush-Covered ☐ Vegetation ☐ Unknown

Approach/Departure Segment (Select one)

- ☐ Taxi ☐ VFR Departure ☐ On Instrument Approach ☐ Downwind ☐ Low Approach
☐ Takeoff ☐ IFR Departure Procedure/Clearance ☐ Landing ☐ Base ☐ Go Around
☐ Initial Climb ☐ Final ☐ Aborted Landing (after touchdown)
☐ Crosswind ☐ Unknown

IFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
☐ ADF/NDB ☐ PAR ☐ MLS ☐ Practice
☐ SDF ☐ Sidestep ☐ LDA ☐ GPS
☐ VOR/TVOR ☐ ILS ☐ ASR
☐ VOR/DME ☐ Localizer Only ☐ Visual
☐ TACAN ☐ LOC-back course ☐ Contact
☐ RNAV ☐ Circling ☐ Unknown

VFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
☐ Traffic Pattern ☐ Stop and Go
☐ Straight-In ☐ Touch and Go
☐ Valley/Terrain Following ☐ Simulated Forced Landing
☐ Go Around ☐ Forced Landing
☐ Full Stop ☐ Precautionary Landing
☐ Unknown

"FLIGHT CREWMEMBER 1" INFORMATION

"Flight Crewmember 1" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident:

☒ Pilot
 ☐ Co-Pilot
 ☐ Student Pilot
 ☐ Flight Instructor
 ☐ Check Pilot
 ☐ Flight Engineer
 ☐ Other Flight Crew

"Flight Crewmember 1" was pilot flying ☐ Yes ☐ No

"Flight Crewmember 1" Identification

First Name: Lee

City of Residence: Merrill

Middle Initial: R

State: WI ZIP: 54452

Last Name: Opsahl

Country: USA

Age at time of Accident/Incident: 60 Date of Birth: 61 mm/dd/yyyy

Certificate Number: [REDACTED]

Degree of Injury

☒ None
 ☐ Fatal
☐ Minor
 ☐ Unknown
☐ Serious

Seat Occupied

☒ Left
 ☐ Front
 ☐ Unknown
☐ Right
 ☐ Rear
☐ Center
 ☐ Single

Restraint Type

Available	Used
☐ None	☐ None
☐ Lap only	☐ Lap only
☒ 3-point	☒ 3-point
☐ 4-point	☐ 4-point
☐ 5-point	☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown	☐ Unknown

Inflatable Restraints

☒ Not Installed
☐ Installed
☐ Not Deployed
☐ Deployed
☐ Unknown

Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
 ☐ Flight Instructor
 ☐ Commercial
 ☐ US Military
☒ Private
 ☐ Recreational
 ☐ Airline Transport
 ☐ Foreign
☐ Student
 ☐ Sport
 ☐ Flight Engineer

Principal Occupation

☐ Pilot
☒ Other
☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate

☐ None
 ☒ Class 3
☐ Class 1
 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only)
☐ Class 2
 ☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate Validity

☐ Without limitations/waivers
 ☐ Unknown
☒ With limitations/waivers
 ☐ N/A
☐ Special Issuance

Date of Last Medical

10/09/2019
mm/dd/yyyy

Medical Certificate Limitations

Must wear corrective lenses

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks:

04/15/2021
mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: Beech

Model: C-23 Sundowner

Airplane Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None
☒ Single-Engine Land
☐ Single-Engine Sea
☐ Multiengine Land
☐ Multiengine Sea

Other Aircraft Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☒ None
☐ Airship
☐ Balloon
☐ Glider
☐ Gyroplane
☐ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instrument Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☒ None
☐ Airplane
☐ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instructor Rating(s) (Check all that apply)

☒ None
☐ Airplane Single-Engine
☐ Airplane Multi-Engine
☐ Gyroplane
☐ Powered Lift
☐ Instrument Airplane
☐ Instrument Helicopter
☐ Helicopter
☐ Glider
☐ Sport

Type Ratings

Student Endorsements (Include dates)

Flight Time (Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time	233	136	233		6		3			
Pilot in Command (PIC)	77	44	77		0		3			
Time as Instructor										
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days	25	25	25							
Last 30 Days	9	9	9							
Last 24 Hours	1	1	1							

"FLIGHT CREWMEMBER 2" INFORMATION**"Flight Crewmember 2" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident**

☐ Pilot ☐ Co-Pilot ☐ Student Pilot ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Check Pilot ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ Other Flight Crew

"Flight Crewmember 2" was pilot flying ☐ Yes ☐ No

"Flight Crewmember 2" Identification

First Name: _____

City of Residence: _____

Middle Initial: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Last Name: _____

Country: _____

Age at time of Accident/Incident: _____ Date of Birth: _____ mm/dd/yyyy

Certificate Number: _____

Degree of Injury

☐ None ☐ Fatal
☐ Minor ☐ Unknown
☐ Serious

Seat Occupied

☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Unknown
☐ Right ☐ Rear
☐ Center ☐ Single

Restraint Type**Available**

☐ None
☐ Lap only
☐ 3-point
☐ 4-point
☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown

Used

☐ None
☐ Lap only
☐ 3-point
☐ 4-point
☐ 5-point
☐ Unknown

Inflatable Restraints

☐ Not Installed
☐ Installed
☐ Not Deployed
☐ Deployed
☐ Unknown

Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply)

☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military
☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign
☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer

Principal Occupation

☐ Pilot
☐ Other
☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate

☐ None ☐ Class 3
☐ Class 1 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only)
☐ Class 2 ☐ Unknown

Medical Certificate Validity

☐ Without limitations/waivers ☐ Unknown
☐ With limitations/waivers ☐ N/A
☐ Special Issuance

Date of Last Medical

____ mm/dd/yyyy

Medical Certificate Limitations**Medical Certificate Special Issuance****Date of Last Flight Review
or Equivalent, Including
FAR 121/135 Checks:**

____ mm/dd/yyyy

Flight Review Aircraft

Make: _____

Model: _____

Airplane Rating(s)

(Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Single-Engine Land
☐ Single-Engine Sea
☐ Multiengine Land
☐ Multiengine Sea

Other Aircraft Rating(s)

(Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Airship
☐ Balloon
☐ Glider
☐ Gyroplane
☐ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instrument Rating(s)

(Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Airplane
☐ Helicopter
☐ Powered Lift

Instructor Rating(s)

(Check all that apply)

☐ None
☐ Airplane Single-Engine
☐ Airplane Multi-Engine
☐ Gyroplane
☐ Powered Lift

☐ Instrument Airplane
☐ Instrument Helicopter
☐ Helicopter
☐ Glider
☐ Sport

Type Ratings**Student Endorsements** (Include dates)

Flight Time (Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time										
Pilot in Command (PIC)										
Time as Instructor										
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days										
Last 30 Days										
Last 24 Hours										

ADDITIONAL FLIGHT CREWMEMBERS (Exclusive of cabin crew, complete the following information)						
Crew Name and Address First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____			Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Front ☐ Rear ☐ Single ☐ Unknown		Injury ☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Private ☐ Student ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Recreational ☐ Sport ☐ Commercial ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ US Military ☐ Foreign			Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No		Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs				
Crew Name and Address First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____			Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Front ☐ Rear ☐ Single ☐ Unknown		Injury ☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Private ☐ Student ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Recreational ☐ Sport ☐ Commercial ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Flight Engineer ☐ US Military ☐ Foreign			Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown		Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No		Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs				
PASSENGER(S) / OTHER PERSONNEL (Include cabin crew; continue on separate sheet if necessary)						
Name and Address	Seat	Injury	Restraint Type	Inflatable Restraints	Age	
First Name: <u>Stan</u> City: <u>Merrill</u> Middle Initial: _____ State: <u>WI</u> ZIP: <u>54452</u> Last Name: <u>Janowiak</u> Country: <u>USA</u> ☐ Crew ☒ Passenger ☐ Other	☐ Left ☐ Center ☒ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☒ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☒ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☒ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☒ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	
First Name: _____ City: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other	☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	
First Name: _____ City: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other	☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	
First Name: _____ City: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other	☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown	

FLIGHT ITINERARY INFORMATION

Last Departure Point Airport ID: <u>KRRL</u> City: <u>Merrill</u> State: <u>WI</u> Country: <u>USA</u>	Time of Departure Time: <u>Approx 1400</u> Time Zone: <u>CDT</u>	Destination Airport ID: <u>KRRL</u> City: <u>Merrill</u> State: <u>WI</u> Country: <u>USA</u>	Type Flight Plan Filed ☒ None ☐ VFR/IFR ☐ Company VFR ☐ IFR ☐ Military VFR ☐ Unknown ☐ VFR Activated? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
---	---	--	---

Type of ATC Clearance/Service (Check all that apply)				
☒ None	☐ Special VFR	☐ Special IFR	☐ VFR Flight Following	☐ Cruise
☐ VFR	☐ IFR	☐ VFR On Top	☐ Traffic Advisory	☐ Unknown / NA

Airspace where the accident/incident occurred (Check all that apply)				Altitude of In-Flight Occurrence: <u>2600</u> ft msl
☐ Class A	☒ Class G	☐ Military Operations Area (MOA)	☐ Special	
☐ Class B	☐ Demo Area	☐ Airport Advisory Area	☐ Air Traffic Control Area	
☐ Class C	☐ Warning Area	☐ Jet Training Area	☐ Unknown	
☐ Class D	☐ Prohibited Area	☐ TRSA		
☒ Class E	☐ Restricted Area	☐ FAR 93		

WEATHER INFORMATION AT THE ACCIDENT/INCIDENT SITE

Source of Pilot Weather Information (Check all that apply)	Weather Observation Facility
☐ National Weather Service ☐ Flight Service Station ☐ TV/Radio ☒ Automated Report ☐ Commercial Weather Service (DUATS) ☐ On-Board Weather	Facility ID: <u>KRRL</u> Observation Time: <u>Approx 1455</u> Time Zone: <u>CDT</u> Distance from Accident Site: <u>5</u> nm Direction from Accident Site: <u>240</u> degrees true
☐ Company ☐ Military ☐ Internet ☐ None ☐ Unknown	

Basic Conditions ☒ VMC ☐ IMC ☐ Unknown	Light Condition ☐ Dawn ☐ Dusk ☐ Dark Night ☐ Unknown ☒ Day ☐ Night ☐ Bright Night
Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition ☐ Clear ☐ Thin Broken ☒ Few ☐ Thin Overcast ☐ Partial Obscuration ☐ Unknown ☐ Scattered	Ceiling ☐ None (Clear) ☐ Obscured ☒ Broken ☐ Indefinite ☐ Overcast ☐ Unknown
Lowest Cloud Condition Height <u>5500</u> ft agl	Ceiling Height <u>5500</u> ft agl
Temperature: _____ (C) or <u>55</u> (F) Dew Point: _____ (C) or _____ (F) Altimeter Setting: _____ in. Hg or _____ MB	

Wind Direction ☐ Variable -or- Direction: <u>050</u> degrees true	Wind Speed ☐ Calm ☐ Light and Variable -or- Speed: <u>6</u> kts	Wind Gusts ☒ Not Gusting -or- Speed: _____ kts	Visibility <u>10</u> miles RVR: _____ feet RVV: _____ miles Density Altitude: _____ ft
--	--	--	---

Intensity of Precipitation ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Heavy ☒ N/A ☐ Unknown	Type of Precipitation (Check all that apply)	Restriction to Visibility (Check all that apply)
	☒ None ☐ Drizzle ☐ Freezing Rain ☐ Rain ☐ Ice Pellets ☐ Snow Shower ☐ Snow ☐ Snow Pellets ☐ Ice Pellets Shower ☐ Hail ☐ Snow Grains ☐ Freezing Drizzle ☐ Rain Showers ☐ Ice Crystals	☒ None ☐ Fog ☐ Blowing Dust ☐ Ground Fog ☐ Blowing Sand ☐ Haze ☐ Blowing Snow ☐ Ice Fog ☐ Blowing Spray ☐ Smoke ☐ Dust ☐ Unknown

Icing Forecast	Icing Actual	Turbulence
Amount ☒ None ☐ Trace ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Severe ☐ Unknown	Amount ☒ None ☐ Trace ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Severe ☐ Unknown	Type (Check all that apply) ☒ None ☐ Clear Air ☐ Terrain-Induced ☐ Convective Turbulence
Type ☒ N/A ☐ Rime ☐ Clear ☐ Mixed ☐ Unknown	Type ☒ N/A ☐ Rime ☐ Clear ☐ Mixed ☐ Unknown	Severity ☐ Light ☐ Moderate ☐ Severe ☐ Extreme

NOTAMs (D and FDC), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, PIREPs in effect at the time of the accident/incident:
 None Known

DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT AND OTHER PROPERTY**Aircraft Damage**

- ☐ None ☒ Substantial
☐ Minor ☐ Destroyed
 ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Fire

- ☒ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Fire at Unknown Time
☐ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Explosion

- ☒ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Explosion at Unknown Time
☐ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Description of Damage to Aircraft and Other Property (Use additional sheet if necessary)

Landing gear collapsed; prop bent; wings attached but out of position; aircraft metal covering buckled and bent in numerous places.

Property's had soil ruts before landing gear collapsed.

NARRATIVE HISTORY OF FLIGHT (Please type or print in ink)

Describe what occurred in chronological order, including circumstances leading to and nature of accident/incident. Describe terrain and include wreckage distribution sketch if pertinent. Attach extra sheets if needed. State departure time and location, services obtained, and intended destination. Provide as much detail as possible.

I believe an occurrence one week prior to the accident on 5/11/2021 may be relevant. I was taking a night flight lesson with my instructor Rich Lussow at 9:15pm on 5/4/2021. I did my normal preflight checklist and taxied to the end of runway 07 in Merrill. At the hold short line, I performed the engine run up checks prior to departure. When the engine rpm was at 2200, I switched the ignition from "BOTH" magnetos to the "L" magneto. The engine ran very roughly and could not maintain power. My instructor, Rich Lussow attempted to improve the engine performance by applying carburetor heat, leaning the mixture, adjusting the throttle, and switching the fuel supply tanks. None of those actions solved the engine issue and the flight was cancelled and the plane removed from the flight line. On 5/5/2021, the airplane mechanic, Richie McCullough found a fouled spark plug and plug connector (I believe) and the spark plug and connector were replaced and the rest of the engine checked. The plane was returned to the flight line and flew several times in following week.

I was approximately 5 miles at 1300 AGL from the Merrill airport and beginning to plan my 45 degree entry into a left downwind pattern to land on runway 07 at Merrill. The engine began to run roughly with a loss of RPM. The rough running engine and loss of power, sounded very similar to what I had previously experienced on May 4, 2021. I increased the throttle to full power from approximately 2000 - 2100 RPM without any improvement in the engine. I switched fuel tanks, thinking that there might be contamination; there was no improvement and RPM continued to decrease. I switched from "BOTH" magnetos to "L" magneto back to "BOTH" then to the "R" magneto and then back to "BOTH". There was no improvement and the engine continued to lose power. I chose a field to land in and turned into the wind. As I approached the ground, I saw power lines at the end of the field and I turned the plane approximately 45 degrees (to land heading NW) to land towards the corner of the field which was bordered by the power lines to the North and a wood lot to the West. The landing gear failed after touching ground, and the plane skidded to a halt. After determining that my passenger and myself were not injured, I turned off all the electrical systems and turned off the fuel. We exited the plane and walked to the road to wait for help to arrive.

Addendum:

When the engine began to run roughly and while I was performing checks (switching fuel tanks, checking magnetos with the ignition switch), my passenger (Stan Janowiak) stated that he smelled "something hot." I stopped what I was doing and looked outside at the front of engine cowling and left side of the engine cowling and did not see any flames or smoke. There was no smoke that I saw in the cockpit. I did not smell anything "hot" but my sense of smell is not good. In following days after the accident, Stan Janowiak described the smell as possibly "the smell when the plastic insulation on wiring melts."

For Reference:

I, Lee Opsahl did submit an Internet report via the NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System on 05/12/2021 at 06:49:48. The receipt code for this report is [REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATION (How could this accident/incident have been prevented?)

Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation

MECHANICAL MALFUNCTION/FAILURE (If more space is needed, continue on separate sheet)

Was there Mechanical Malfunction/Failure? ☐ Yes ☐ No
(If yes, list the name of the part, manufacturer, part no., serial no., and describe the failure.)

Total Time/Cycles
On Part

_____ Hours

_____ Cycles

Time Since This Part
Inspected/Overhauled

_____ Hours

FUEL & SERVICES INFORMATIONFuel on Board at Last Takeoff
(Convert from pounds, as necessary)

40 _____ Gallons

Fuel Type

☐ 80/87☐ 115/145☐ Jet B☐ Other, specify _____☒ 100 Low Lead☐ Jet A☐ JP8☐ 100/130☐ Jet A-1☐ Automotive

Other Services, if Any, Prior to Departure

An oil change was done on 5/11/2021 prior to the flight.

EVACUATION OF AIRCRAFTWas an emergency evacuation of the aircraft performed? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Method of Exit – Describe how the occupants exited and how many occupants evacuated each location

Both cabin doors were able to open we exited in the normal way.

OTHER AIRCRAFT – COLLISION (If air or ground collision occurred, complete this section for other aircraft)

Aircraft Registration Number

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

Damage to Other Aircraft

☐ Destroyed☐ Minor☐ Substantial☐ None

Registered Owner of Other Aircraft

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

Pilot of Other Aircraft

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Please type or print in ink)

Use this space if additional space is needed for any answers.

See Narrative

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE

Date of this Report 05/20/2021 Name of Pilot/Operator Lee Opsahl
mm/dd/yyyy
Signature: [REDACTED]
-- or -- ☐ Check here to electronically sign this document

If a Person Other than Pilot/Operator is Filing Report

Name: _____ Title: _____
Signature: _____
-- or -- ☐ Check here to electronically sign this document

FOR NTSB USE ONLY

NTSB Accident/Incident No. CEN21LA213	Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office CEN	Name of Investigator Link	Date Report Received 5/20/2021
---	--	-------------------------------------	--