



Joshua Lindberg
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Aviation Safety - Central Region

Date: June 21, 2024

Subject: CEN24LA231

Contact: John Shepler, CFI rated passenger

The following is an email statement from Mr. Shepler:

On June 19th, at approximately 1130 am, I was observing Mr. Foskett, from the right seat, while he was flying his Zenith aircraft, tail number N355VT.

During the flight we observed that the winds were becoming variable and were not matching the 5knot winds that the METAR was reporting.

Mr. Foskett had completed around 4 landings for the day and on the 5th landing, while less than 50 feet from the surface and on centerline, a heavy gust of wind pushed the plane into wing low situation and while recovering, the plane struck the ground firm enough to create a bounce. When the plane came down the second time, the nose wheel collapsed (later realized it broke off) and the airplane began to skid down the runway and veering to the left. The prop struck the runway and quit rotating. When the aircraft reached the grass, it came to a sudden stop which stood the airplane up on its nose before falling back and resting on the fuselage. No injuries occurred during the event.

END