

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: ERA23LA318 Laconia, NH N9855A
Date: Thursday, August 3, 2023 12:43:14 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

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Good afternoon Brian, here is some of the additional info you requested:

Last Annual: 5/23/23
Airframe S/N 7548
Engine: Jacobs R 755-2 S/N 35075

SMOH – 386

Pilot:

Total time: 20,930
Last 90: 19
Total m/m: 946
Hours last year: 30
Total night in last year: 0
BFR: 4/18/22 in J-3 Cub

No witnesses, video from FBO sent. No statement received prior to his fall. Pilot was on the final leg of a 4 leg flight from Oshkosh after staying there for a week. He wanted to get home before dark and was also getting pressure from his wife to get home. Appears to be at least 5 hours of flight time that day on the way home prior to the accident. He has no recent night takeoff or landing experience.

Pilot stated that his landing felt normal and was just passed the numbers. He reported a normal rollout until about 30-35 knots indicated. At that time he reported the airplane rapidly and suddenly veered off of the runway and he was not able to correct. He initially told me it was a “ground loop”. Also, he first reported that the left main gear wheel locked up and he made right pedal application. The next time he explained the event to me he told me the right brake likely stuck. As I was walking out to his airplane, he stated he thought the retention bolt on the left wheel sheered cause the left wheel to drag. My point being he was not consistent with what happened.

Based on my look at the airplane and especially the marks on the runway, combined with the video, it appears that the airplane made an abrupt turn to the right during rollout causing the aircraft to start sliding on the left gear and causing it to buckle and fold under the airplane. The only marks on the pavement are from the left wheel – a skid, followed by a gouge in the pavement with paint transfer. There is no indication of a skid from the right main gear. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Please let me know if you need anything else. If you'd like the pictures uploaded you can send a link or I can try to cram them into an email.

Respectfully,



Matthew Hall
Aviation Safety Inspector
Portland Maine Flight Standards Office

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