



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	ELKINS, West Virginia	Accident Number:	BF091LA052
Date & Time:	May 31, 1991, 20:04 Local	Registration:	N6904B
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-22-150	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

THE STUDENT PILOT HAD COMPLETED TWO PRACTICE TOUCH AND GO LANDINGS ON RUNWAY 32 AND HAD JUST LIFTED OFF THE RUNWAY FOR A THIRD, WHEN THE ENGINE UNEXPECTEDLY STOPPED RUNNING. HE QUICKLY CHECKED HIS FUEL GAUGES, MAGNETO SWITCH AND SWITCHED THE FUEL TANK SELECTOR WITH NO SUCCESS. SINCE THE TERRAIN STRAIGHT AHEAD WAS UNSUITABLE, HE ELECTED TO MAKE A 100 DEGREE GLIDING LEFT TURN AND LANDED IN AN OPEN AREA. AT THE END OF HIS 200 FOOT GROUND ROLL, THE AIRCRAFT STRUCK A FENCE POST AND TIPPED ON IT'S NOSE AND CAME TO A STOP INVERTED.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE LOSS OF ENGINE POWER FOR UNDETERMINED REASONS.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Occurrence #3: NOSE OVER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings
2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIDDEN OBSTRUCTION(S)

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	45, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 19, 1990
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	33 hours (Total, all aircraft), 33 hours (Total, this make and model), 12 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N6904B
Model/Series:	PA-22-150 PA-22-150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	22-4176
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	July 1, 1990 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	42 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4261 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A2B
Registered Owner:	ALLEN D CHENOWETH	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	ALLEN D CHENOWETH	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 4000 ft AGL	Visibility	7 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 25000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	240°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	27°C / 21°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	ELKINS , WV (EKN)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	19:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	ELKINS-RANDOLPH CO. EKN	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing;Go around

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Reitan, Albert
Additional Participating Persons:	J. HOGAN; CHARLESTON , WV
Original Publish Date:	December 4, 1992
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=11680

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