



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	ESTELLINE, South Dakota	Accident Number:	DEN86LA085
Date & Time:	February 25, 1986, 17:30 Local	Registration:	N5721D
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-22-150	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

ACCORDING TO THE STUDENT PLT, DURING THE LANDING ROLL ON A PUBLIC ROAD, THE ACFT HE WAS PILOTING ENCOUNTERED A CROSSWIND WHICH TIPPED THE LEFT WING UP. THE STUDENT PLT INDICATED THE ACFT NOSED OVER ONTO ITS BACK. THE PLT HAD PURCHASED THE ACFT APRX 1 HR PRIOR TO THE ACCIDENT.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (F) AIRPORT FACILITIES, RUNWAY/LANDING AREA CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN
2. (C) PLANNING/DECISION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CROSSWIND
4. (F) LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (F) LACK OF TOTAL EXPERIENCE IN TYPE OF AIRCRAFT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: NOSE OVER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

6. UNSUITABLE TERRAIN OR TAKEOFF/LANDING/TAXI AREA - SELECTED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Student	Age:	38, 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 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 4, 1985
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	15 hours (Total, all aircraft), 14 hours (Total, this make and model), 8 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N5721D
Model/Series:	PA-22-150 PA-22-150	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	22-4419
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	February 22, 1986 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1840 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	5 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2684 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A1A
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	ROSS G. RITCHIE	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:	Clear	Visibility	40 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	15 knots / 20 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	280°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	10°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	MILBANK , SD	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	16:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	Gravel
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Stop and go;Straight-in

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:	44.569,-96.899536(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Mickle, Ronald

Additional Participating Persons: GRANT PEARSOLL; RAPID CITY , SD

Original Publish Date:

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class](#)

Note:

Investigation Docket: <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=16925>

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, “accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person” (Title 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB’s statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b) is available [here](#).