



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	WEST FORK, Arkansas	<b>Accident Number:</b>	FTW90LA135
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	July 23, 1990, 08:30 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N7202P
<b>Aircraft:</b>	PIPER PA-24	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation		

## Analysis

WHILE CRUISING AT 6,500 FEET MEAN SEA LEVEL THE PA24-250 EXPERIENCED A CATASTROPHIC ENGINE FAILURE DUE TO THE IDLER GEAR BOLT FAILING AND JAMMING THE CRANKSHAFT GEAR. THE PILOT EXECUTED AN EMERGENCY LANDING TO A NARROW FARM ROAD, DURING THE LANDING ROLL THE WING STRUCK A UTILITY POLE CAUSING SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE CATASTROPHIC FAILURE OF THE ENGINE.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF  
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

### Findings

1. ACCESSORY DRIVE ASSY - JAMMED  
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY  
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Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

2. (F) OBJECT - UTILITY POLE

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	58, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine sea	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Unknown
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>		<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	January 17, 1990
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	394 hours (Total, all aircraft), 296 hours (Total, this make and model), 350 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 59 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 22 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	PIPER	<b>Registration:</b>	N7202P
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA-24 PA-24	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>		<b>Serial Number:</b>	24-2372
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	Unknown	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2900 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	0 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-540-A1A5
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	UNKNOWN	<b>Rated Power:</b>	250 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	FISHER GLENN D.	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	FYV ,1251 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	25 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	09:48 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	37°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	4 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	60°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	-18°C / -18°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	N/A - None - Fog		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	HOUSTON , MO (M48 )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	BRECKENRIDGE , TX (BKD )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	07:15 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	NONE	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>		<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Forced landing

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	35.930591,-94.180183(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Ellis, Matthew

**Additional Participating Persons:** E NEWBERRY;

**Original Publish Date:** September 28, 1992

**Last Revision Date:**

**Investigation Class:** [Class](#)

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=23154>

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