



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	SONORA, Texas	Accident Number:	FTW91LA118
Date & Time:	July 7, 1991, 16:00 Local	Registration:	N83165
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-28RT-201T	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	2 Minor, 2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PILOT WAS ATTEMPTING TO TAKEOFF FROM A ROUGH, DOWNHILL AIRSTRIP ON A PRIVATE RANCH WHEN THE AIRPLANE STRUCK A CATTLE FENCE, BUSHES, AND A DIRT EMBANKMENT. THE AIRPLANE NOSED OVER. NUMEROUS GROUND SCRAPE MARKS WERE OBSERVED ON THE GROUND ALONG THE AIRPLANE'S DEPARTURE PATH. THE DENSITY ALTITUDE WAS REPORTED TO BE 5,000 FEET. THE PILOT WAS FLYING FROM THE RIGHT FRONT SEAT POSITION WITH HIS SON IN THE LEFT FRONT SEAT. THE PILOT STATED, 'AT THE POINT OF GO/NO-GO, WE HAD TO CONTINUE AS WE COULD NOT GET STOPPED IN THAT DISTANCE.' NO MECHANICAL ANOMALIES WERE FOUND TO ANY AIRPLANE SYSTEM.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S IMPROPER AIRCRAFT CONTROL DURING THE TAKEOFF GROUND RUN. FACTORS WERE THE DENSITY ALTITUDE AND THE ROUGH TERRAIN.

Findings

Occurrence #1: OVERRUN
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

- Findings
1. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
 2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - HIGH DENSITY ALTITUDE

3. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN

Occurrence #2: ON GROUND/WATER COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

Findings

4. OBJECT - FENCE

5. TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH VEGETATION

Occurrence #3: NOSE OVER
Phase of Operation: OTHER

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	48, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 28, 1991
Occupational Pilot:	UNK	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1819 hours (Total, all aircraft), 163 hours (Total, this make and model), 1800 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 92 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 19 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N83165
Model/Series:	PA-28RT-201T PA-28RT-20	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	28R8131052
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2900 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	0 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Installed, activated	Engine Model/Series:	TSIO-360-FB1B
Registered Owner:	TRAVIS N. HAND	Rated Power:	200 Horsepower
Operator:	TRAVIS N. HAND	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
Operator Does Business As:	HAND AVIATION, INC.	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 / 7000 ft AGL	Visibility	25 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	140°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	33°C / 17°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	VFR
Destination:	FRIENDSWOOD , TX (T02)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	16:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	WHITEHEAD RANCH NONE	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Airport Elevation:	2100 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry;Rough
Runway Used:	36	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3500 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor, 2 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 Minor, 2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	30.569849,-100.640029(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Wall, O.
Additional Participating Persons:	R. RODRIGUEZ; SAN ANTONIO , TX
Original Publish Date:	March 31, 1993
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=23363

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