



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	ELY, Minnesota	<b>Accident Number:</b>	MKC90LA056
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	February 20, 1990, 15:00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N4859A
<b>Aircraft:</b>	PIPER PA-22	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	3 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

AS THE PLT WAS TAKING OFF ON RWY 30, THE TAILWHEEL CONVERTED ACFT TURNED INTO THE WIND. SUBSEQUENTLY, IT WENT OFF THE LEFT SIDE OF THE RUNWAY & NOSED OVER. THE 1520 CST WIND WAS FROM 210 DEG AT 10 GUSTING 25 KTS.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: IMPROPER PLANNING/DECISION BY THE PILOT. A FACTOR RELATED TO THE ACCIDENT WAS: THE STRONG/GUSTY CROSSWIND CONDITION.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - ON GROUND/WATER  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - ROLL/RUN

### Findings

1. (C) PLANNING/DECISION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - CROSSWIND
3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - GUSTS
4. DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT POSSIBLE - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - UNCONTROLLED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: NOSE OVER  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	48, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Unknown
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>		<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	July 26, 1989
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	3000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 25 hours (Total, this make and model), 25 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	PIPER	<b>Registration:</b>	N4859A
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA-22 PA-22	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	4015
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	May 16, 1989 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2000 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	25 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	2924 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-320-A1A
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	UNKNOWN	<b>Rated Power:</b>	150 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	JENC, PAUL	<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>	ELO ,1451 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	1 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	15:20 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	15 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	10 knots / 25 knots	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	210°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	-18°C / -18°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>		<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	HIBBING , MN (H1B )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	15:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	ELY ELO	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	1451 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	30	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	5600 ft / 100 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	2 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	3 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	47.900028,-91.849754(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Hruban, John

**Additional Participating Persons:** JOHN VERGENZ;

**Original Publish Date:** September 5, 1991

**Last Revision Date:**

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

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=34934>

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