



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	GRAND HAVEN, MI	Accident Number:	CHI96LA126
Date & Time:	04/01/1996, 1030 EST	Registration:	N454Q
Aircraft:	Piper PA-18A	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

After touchdown from a left wing low landing, the student pilot, who was flying the airplane from the front seat, allowed the airplane to veer left. The instructor pilot, who was in the back seat, took control of the airplane, added full power, and pulled back on the stick in an attempt to avoid a runway light. The airplane cleared the light at a slow airspeed; however, its right wing immediately dipped and struck the terrain. The airplane then spun around and came to a stop. Examination of the airplane revealed no anomalies which could have contributed to the accident.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: failure of the dual student to maintain directional control of the airplane during the landing, and inadequate supervision by the flight instructor.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

1. (C) DIRECTIONAL CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - DUAL STUDENT
2. GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - INADVERTENT
3. (C) SUPERVISION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)
4. OBJECT - RUNWAY LIGHT
5. MANEUVER TO AVOID OBSTRUCTIONS - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	39
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Single-engine
Flight Time:	800 hours (Total, all aircraft), 150 hours (Total, this make and model), 800 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 20 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N454Q
Model/Series:	PA-18A PA-18A	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	JOHN R. YARRANTON	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A2B
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Witness
Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	15 knots / 20 knots, 360°
Temperature:	10° C	Visibility	15 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	(3GM)	Destination:	MUSKEGON, MI (MKG)

Airport Information

Airport:	GRAND HAVEN (3GM)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	9	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	4000 ft / 75 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Latitude, Longitude:

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	DAVID C BOWLING	Adopted Date:	07/03/1996
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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