



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	SULPHER, LA	Accident Number:	FTW87LA001
Date & Time:	10/01/1986, 1930 CDT	Registration:	N7533Y
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-30	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PILOT LANDED LONG AT A PRIVATE GRASS AIRSTRIP AND DELIBERATELY GROUND LOOPED THE AIRCRAFT TO AVOID OVERRUNNING THE AIRSTRIP INTO A THREE FOOT DITCH. THE NOSE GEAR COLLAPSED DURING THE GROUND LOOP AND THE WINGS AND MAIN GEARS WERE DAMAGED WHEN THE AIRCRAFT SLID SIDWAYS ACROSS A DITCH AT THE END OF THE RUNWAY. THE PILOT REPORTED LITTLE BRAKING ACTION AS THE AIRSTRIP WAS WET FROM RECENT RAINS.

Probable Cause

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: OVERRUN

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (F) AIRPORT FACILITIES, RUNWAY/LANDING AREA CONDITION - WET
2. (F) BUZZING - EXCEEDED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) OVERCONFIDENCE IN PERSONAL ABILITY - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) GO-AROUND - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (C) GROUND LOOP/SWERVE - INTENTIONAL - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: NOSE GEAR COLLAPSED

Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

6. LANDING GEAR, NOSE GEAR ASSEMBLY - FAILURE, TOTAL
7. LANDING GEAR, NOSE GEAR ASSEMBLY - OVERLOAD

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Airline Transport	Age:	47
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	10578 hours (Total, all aircraft), 800 hours (Total, this make and model), 800 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 231 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N7533Y
Model/Series:	PA-30 PA-30	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Operator:	BRIAN A. DUNLOP	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-320-B1A
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Dusk
Observation Facility, Elevation:	LCH, 16 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	7 knots / , 170°
Temperature:	28° C	Visibility	15 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	LAKE CHARLES, LA (LCH)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Runway Used:	18	Runway Surface Condition:	Wet
Runway Length/Width:	2600 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	S	STRAND	Adopted Date:
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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