



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	ALAMOGORDO, NM	<b>Accident Number:</b>	DEN86LA059
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	01/01/1986, 1623 MST	<b>Registration:</b>	N166JD
<b>Aircraft:</b>	SCHEMPP-HIRTH VENTUS-B	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Serious
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

UPON RETURNING TO THE ARPT, THE PLT DECIDED TO MAKE A FLY-BY. THE PLT REPORTED THAT WHILE ON A MODIFIED DOWNWIND AT AN ALT OF APRX 50 FT AGL, THE GLIDER WHICH HE WAS PILOTING ENCOUNTERED ADVERSE WINDS AND DOWNDRAFTS. CONTROL OF THE ACFT WAS LOST AND IT DESCENDED RAPIDLY TO GROUND CONTACT.

## Probable Cause

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

## Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER  
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - DOWNWIND

### Findings

1. (C) WEATHER CONDITION - DOWNDRAFT
2. (C) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) LOW PASS - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: ALTITUDE DEVIATION, UNCONTROLLED  
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - DOWNWIND

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Flight Instructor; Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	37
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Glider	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Glider
<b>Flight Time:</b>	774 hours (Total, all aircraft), 6 hours (Total, this make and model), 676 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 42 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	SCHEMPP-HIRTH	Registration:	N166JD
Model/Series:	VENTUS-B VENTUS-B	Engines:	Unknown
Operator:	JIM DAY	Engine Manufacturer:	
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	HMN, 4093 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots / , 329°
Temperature:	15° C	Visibility	60 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	ALAMOGORDO, NM	Destination:	

## Airport Information

Airport:	ALAMAGORDO-WHITE SANDS RG	Runway Surface Type:	Dirt
Runway Used:	21	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	7005 ft / 150 ft		

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Latitude, Longitude:

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	RONALD MICKLE	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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report.