



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	ROMEDEVILLE, IL	Accident Number:	CHI83LA002
Date & Time:	10/01/1982, 2030 CDT	Registration:	N4434A
Aircraft:	PIPER PA-22	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

THE PILOT FLEW OVER THE AIRPORT AT NIGHT, SAW THE RUNWAY LIGHTS AND ENTERED THE TRAFFIC PATTERN FOR LANDING. ON FINAL APPROACH, HE SAW A ROTATING BEACON AND THOUGHT AN AIRCRAFT WAS HOLDING SHORT OF THE RUNWAY. AS HE CONTINUED ON FINAL, HE SAW THAT THE BEACON WAS ON A VEHICLE. THE PILOT REPORTED THAT HE WAS DISTRACTED AND STARTED TO GO AROUND. HOWEVER, HE STATED THAT HE "FLEW DOWN A LITTLE WAY", THEN DECIDED TO LAND. THE PILOT REPORTED THAT THE AIRCRAFT TOUCHED DOWN ON TURF ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE RUNWAY, THEN FLIPPED OVER. THE PLANE CAME TO REST IN A TRENCH THAT RAN PARALLEL AND NEXT TO THE RUNWAY.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

Findings

Occurrence #1: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

1. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - DARK NIGHT
2. (C) PROPER ALIGNMENT - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) DIVERTED ATTENTION - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - DITCH

Occurrence #2: NOSE OVER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	42, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	06/02/1982
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	446 hours (Total, all aircraft), 290 hours (Total, this make and model), 243 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 45 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N4434A
Model/Series:	PA-22 PA-22	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:		Serial Number:	22-3763
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1950 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	0 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1835 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	O-320
Registered Owner:	RUSSELL A. SPENGER	Rated Power:	150 hp
Operator:	RUSSELL A. SPENGER	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 25000 ft agl	Visibility	15 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	60°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	56° C / 0° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	SCHAUMBURS, IL (O6C)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	JAMESTOWN, NY (JHW)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	2000	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	ROMEDEVILLE (LOT)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	0 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	9	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3000 ft / 60 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Report Date:	10/01/1983
Additional Participating Persons:		
Publish 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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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. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).