



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	Lynden, WA	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR09CA002
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	10/02/2008, 1845 PDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N2146M
<b>Aircraft:</b>	PIPER J3C-65	<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot stated that the tailwheel equipped airplane suddenly veered to the right during the landing roll. Despite his control inputs, the airplane continued to veer to the right, exited the runway, and impacted a hangar located adjacent to the runway. Examination of the airplane revealed that the fuselage and both wings were structurally damaged. The tailwheel spring retaining clip was found separated from the tailwheel assembly. No anomalies were noted with the flight control system.

## Flight Events

Landing-landing roll - Sys/Comp malf/fail (non-power)  
Landing-landing roll - Loss of control on ground  
Landing-landing roll - Runway excursion  
Landing-landing roll - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:  
The separation of the tailwheel spring retaining clip for unknown reasons, which resulted in the loss of directional control during the landing roll.

## Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Directional control-  
Attain/maintain not possible - C  
Aircraft-Aircraft systems-Landing gear system-Nose/tail landing gear-Failure - C

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	34
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	233 hours (Total, all aircraft), 15 hours (Total, this make and model)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Manufacturer:</b>	PIPER	<b>Registration:</b>	N2146M
<b>Model/Series:</b>	J3C-65	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Operator:</b>	John William Vanderhage	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Continental
<b>Air Carrier Operating Certificate:</b>	None	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	C85
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	BLI, 170 ft msl	<b>Weather Information Source:</b>	Weather Observation Facility
<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Overcast / 3900 ft agl
<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	5 knots, 200°
<b>Temperature:</b>	17° C / 12° C	<b>Visibility</b>	10 Miles
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Lynden, WA (38W)	<b>Destination:</b>	Lynden, WA (38W)

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Lynden Airport (38W)	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Runway Used:</b>	25	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	2425 ft / 40 ft		

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Joshua Cawthra	<b>Adopted Date:</b>	11/05/2008
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	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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