



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

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<b>Location:</b>	Spanish Fork, UT	<b>Accident Number:</b>	GAA18CA553
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	09/13/2018, 0830 MDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N7223J
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Piper PA28	<b>Injuries:</b>	2 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

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## Analysis

The flight instructor reported that, during takeoff, as the airplane reached rotation speed, the student took his feet off the rudder pedals. The airplane drifted left of the runway centerline, and the student then quickly placed his feet back on the pedals and pushed the right brake, which caused the airplane to veer right. The instructor, who did not have brakes on his side, applied left rudder, but the airplane departed the right side of the runway. He added that, during the runway excursion, he heard the tail dragging along the ground or striking bushes. Subsequently, the airplane aligned with the runway, but fearing damage to the tail, the instructor aborted the takeoff and landed the airplane on the side of the runway, and it struck large mounds of dirt and a ditch.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings and the fuselage.

The flight instructor reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

## Flight Events

- Takeoff - Loss of control on ground
- Takeoff - Attempted remediation/recovery
- Takeoff - Runway excursion
- Takeoff - Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

## Probable Cause

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

The student pilot's failure to maintain the runway heading during takeoff and the flight instructor's decision to conduct primary flight instruction in an airplane without dual controls.

## Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-Heading/course-Not attained/maintained - C

Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Student/instructed pilot - C

Personnel issues-Action/decision-Info processing/decision-Decision making/judgment-Instructor/check pilot - C

Environmental issues-Physical environment-Terrain-Sloped/uneven terrain-Contributed to outcome

## Flight Instructor Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Flight Instructor; Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	28
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Airplane Single-engine
<b>Flight Time:</b>	(Estimated) 888 hours (Total, all aircraft), 198 hours (Total, this make and model), 856 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 47 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Student Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	None	<b>Age:</b>	35
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	(Estimated)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Piper	<b>Registration:</b>	N7223J
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA28 140	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Lycoming
<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-320-E3D
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Dawn
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KPVU, 4497 ft msl	<b>Weather Information Source:</b>	Weather Observation Facility
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	Light and Variable / , Variable
<b>Temperature:</b>	22° C	<b>Visibility</b>	10 Miles
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Spanish Fork, UT (SPK)	<b>Destination:</b>	Spanish Fork, UT (SPK)

## Airport Information

Airport:	SPANISH FORK ARPT SPRINGVILLE- (SPK)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	30	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	6500 ft / 100 ft		

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	40.145000, -111.666667 (est)		

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Eric A Swenson	Adopted Date:	03/18/2019
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	<a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=98295">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=98295</a>		

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