AAIB Bulletin No: 7/95 Ref: EW/G95/04/28 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-28-180 Cherokee, G-AVYL

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-360-A4A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1968

Date & Time (UTC): 15 April 1995 at 0929 hrs

Location: Perth Aerodrome

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 2

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Nosewheel leg and fork bent

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC and Night Ratings

Commander's Age: 47 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 408 hours (of which 180 were on type)

Last 90 days - 4 hours Last 28 days - 2 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

At the end of a local flight, the pilot returned to Perth for a landing on Runway 34, a grass runway 620 metres long; the weather was good with a surface wind of 360°/15 to 20 kt. As turbulence was experienced on finals, the pilot maintained an approach speed of 70 kt. Over the threshold the aircraft floated longer than expected and, after touching down, the pilot thought that there was a possibility that G-AVYL would not stop before the end of the runway. Therefore, she turned the aircraft to the left and the nosewheel contacted the runway numbers set in the grass. Subsequently, she noticed that G-AVYL was difficult to steer and the damage was discovered after parking. The pilot considered that the accident was caused by too much speed over the threshold and an extended flare.