

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-28-161 Cherokee Warrior II, G-RIZZ	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-320-D3G piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1978	
Date & Time (UTC):	10 February 2008 at 1630 hrs	
Location:	Sibson Airfield, Peterborough	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Propeller, nose gear and wing damaged	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	43 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	177 hours (of which 41 were on type) Last 90 days - 3 hours Last 28 days - 3 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Synopsis

After two unsuccessful approaches to Runway 24, due to the low sun, the pilot elected to land on Runway 15. During the base leg he lost visual references, again due to the low sun, resulting in a high and fast final approach. The subsequent touchdown point was 165 metres into the 551 metre long wet grass runway; the wind at the time was from 110° at 4 kt. Despite the application of brakes the aircraft failed to stop and departed the end of the runway before coming to rest in a ditch at the airfield boundary.

History of the flight

The pilot had already made two attempts at landing on the grass Runway 24 at Sibson. On both occasions the sun was low and was distracting the pilot, causing

him to abort the landings. After the second attempt the pilot elected to use the grass Runway 15. On base leg for Runway 15, the low sun again caused the pilot to lose his visual references of the airfield. By the time he turned onto final, the pilot thought he was probably too high and fast but had the impression he would be able to stop on the runway, he continued his approach.

The aircraft touched down at the intersection with Runway 24, approximately 165 metres into the 551 metre long runway. The wind at the time was from 110° at 4 kt with an outside air temperature of 8°C. Despite the application of brakes, the aircraft failed to stop on the short wet grass and it departed the end of the

runway before coming to rest in a ditch at the airfield boundary. The pilot and passenger were uninjured and exited the aircraft normally.