

**AAIB Bulletin No: 2/96**

**Ref: EW/G95/10/03**

**Category: 1.3**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Piper PA-38-112 Tomahawk, G-BSOV

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Lycoming O-235-L2A piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1981

**Date & Time (UTC):** 7 October 1995 at 1247 hrs

**Location:** Panshanger Airfield, Hertfordshire

**Type of Flight:** Private (Training)

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1                      Passengers - 1

**Injuries:** Crew - None                      Passengers - None

**Nature of Damage:** Nose landing gear collapsed, damage to propeller, engine cowling both wings, canopy and tail structure

**Commander's Licence:** Basic Commercial Pilot's Licence with Instructor Rating

**Commander's Age:** 35 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 960 hours (of which 600 hours were on type)  
Last 90 days - 150 hours  
Last 28 days - 40 hours

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and further inquiries

This was a dual circuit training flight with an above average student who had gone solo and completed about 15 hours. The aircraft made an approach to the grass Runway 29 with the intention of practising a touch-and-go. The surface wind was southerly at 8 kt. The touchdown was to the right of the runway centreline and the instructor allowed the student to continue, expecting him to apply a little left rudder to regain the centreline. The aircraft unexpectedly veered to the right and when the instructor tried to apply left rudder he was unable to do so because the student was applying pressure to both pedals. The aircraft ran onto the newly ploughed ground to the right of the runway at about 30 kt which caused the nose landing gear to collapse and the aircraft to nose over.

Both crew members were wearing lap and diagonal harnesses and vacated the aircraft through the starboard hatch without injury. The airfield fire vehicle was in attendance as were the local fire service and the police.