ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-28-140 Cherokee, G-UANT
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-320-E3D piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1973
Date & Time (UTC):	5 April 2009 at 1215 hrs
Location:	Runway 28, Blackpool Airport
Type of Flight:	Training
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1　　　　　Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None　　　　Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to propeller and nosewheel fork
Commander's Licence:	Student
Commander's Age:	27 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	44 hours (of which 43 were on type) Last 90 days - 9 hours Last 28 days - 3 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Synopsis

The student pilot touched down to the right of the runway with a higher than normal groundspeed. In attempting to regain the centreline he believes he applied too much rudder pedal for the speed of the aircraft, resulting in it veering to the left and departing the runway.

History of the flight

The student pilot had completed an uneventful navigation training exercise and returned to Blackpool Airport to land. He was instructed by ATC to extend his final approach to allow separation from a departing aircraft. The student found he was slightly low during the subsequent approach and increased power to compensate, touching down on the right-hand side of the runway, just beyond the runway numbers. He stated that, due to the lack of headwind and the increased power set, his groundspeed at touchdown was greater than normal.

The student applied left rudder to regain the runway centreline but he reported that on passing the centreline the aircraft veered sharply left and departed the side of the runway. The nosewheel entered a ditch, causing the propeller to strike the ground.

Cause

The student believes that, considering the higher than normal ground speed of the aircraft, he applied too much rudder pedal to steer the aircraft back towards the centreline.