



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Helena, MT	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR13CA355
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	08/02/2013, 0940 MDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N2926M
<b>Aircraft:</b>	MOONEY M20F	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Runway excursion	<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

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## Analysis

The flight instructor reported that the purpose of the flight was for the pilot-undergoing instruction to perform touch-and-go practice takeoffs and landings. During the approach, the airplane was slightly fast and touched down about halfway down the runway. The instructor thought the pilot could still successfully complete a takeoff and monitored him as he retracted the flaps. As the airplane continued down the runway, the instructor decided that the airplane's climb performance would not be sufficient to clear obstacles at the end of the runway and he opted to abort the takeoff. The instructor retarded the throttle lever to the closed position and told the pilot to apply maximum braking pressure. The airplane subsequently went off the end of runway into a grass field and continued about 100 feet before impacting a chain-link fence. During the accident sequence, the wing spar was substantially damaged.

The airplane's brake pedals were only accessible to the left-seated person, which is where the pilot was positioned. The instructor reported no mechanical malfunctions or failures with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation. He additionally stated that this accident could have been prevented by making a timely decision to go-around when it was apparent that the airplane was going to touchdown further down the runway.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:  
The flight instructor's delayed decision to instruct the pilot to abort the landing which resulted in a runway excursion and collision with a fence.

### Findings

<b>Personnel issues</b>	Monitoring other person - Instructor/check pilot (Cause) Delayed action - Instructor/check pilot (Cause)
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Fence/fence post - Not specified

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Takeoff-rejected takeoff	Runway excursion (Defining event)
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### Flight Instructor Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Airline Transport; Flight Instructor	<b>Age:</b>	54
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Right
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	Yes
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine; Instrument Airplane	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 With Waivers/Limitations	<b>Last Medical Exam:</b>	07/12/2012
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	Yes	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	4509 hours (Total, all aircraft), 265 hours (Total, this make and model)		

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	35
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	Yes
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Without Waivers/Limitations	<b>Last Medical Exam:</b>	07/27/2010
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	137 hours (Total, all aircraft), 7 hours (Total, this make and model)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	MOONEY	Registration:	N2926M
Model/Series:	M20F	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	22-1282
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO360 SER A&C
Registered Owner:	Brent Vetter	Rated Power:	200 hp
Operator:	On file	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:		Observation Time:	
Distance from Accident Site:		Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:		Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Temperature/Dew Point:	24 ° C
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	Light and Variable, Variable	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:		Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Helena, MT (HLN)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Helena, MT (HLN)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	MDT	Type of Airspace:	

## Airport Information

Airport:	Helena Regional Airport (HLN)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	3878 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	34	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2988 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Touch and Go; Traffic Pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None		

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Zoe Keliher	<b>Adopted Date:</b>	11/19/2013
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Troy Meskimen; Federal Aviation Administration; Helena, MT		
<b>Publish Date:</b>	11/19/2013		
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=87656">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=87656</a>		

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