

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Vans RV-6A, G-RVNI	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-320-D2A piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2008	
Date & Time (UTC):	3 September 2011 at 1415 hrs	
Location:	Causeway Airfield, Co Londonderry, Northern Ireland	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Severe damage to nose and wings	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	50 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	203 hours (of which 19 were on type) Last 90 days - 6 hours Last 28 days - 2 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Synopsis

After lining up on Runway 16 the pilot applied full power and the aircraft began to accelerate along the runway. The pilot reported that the takeoff run appeared to be progressing normally, with right rudder applied to maintain the runway heading. As the aircraft's speed approached 55 kt he applied backpressure to the control column to raise the nose, but the aircraft pitched up uncontrollably. The aircraft then veered to the right and passed through a fence, coming to rest in a field

adjacent to the airfield. Both occupants were uninjured and were able to leave the aircraft without assistance.

The pilot attributed the accident to a lack of experience in operating from grass runways and the possibility that the nosewheel struck an undulation in the runway surface as back pressure was applied to the control column.