



Montana Trooper

On the Road

On April 19th, 2012, at approximately 1252 hours, a maroon 2003 Mitsubishi Gallant was eastbound on Interstate 94 near mile marker 3 traveling approximately 50 mph when it was rear ended by a gold 2008 Ford F-350 truck traveling approximately 75 mph, causing significant damage and blowing out the rear window of the Mitsubishi. Despite the collision, the elderly female driver of the Mitsubishi continued to drive on, leaving the scene. Radio technician Mike Kaufman (MHP R31) overheard the call and spotted the Mitsubishi, following the driver to her residence some 25 miles away. Trooper Dell Aman (MHP 158) responded to the residence



and informed the driver she had been in a crash, and she insisted that she had not been in a crash, but rather she asserted that the 50 pound bag of dog food she had been carrying in her trunk had spontaneously exploded. She was sub-

sequently cited for leaving the scene and submitted for a driver re-exam.

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On the afternoon of March 23rd, 2012, in Dawson County, Trooper Glen Quinnell stopped a passenger car from Washington bound for Minnesota for a speed violation and obtained consent from the four male occupants for a search of the vehicle, after which he located a pistol, a pound of marijuana seeds, and \$8,450 in cash concealed in the trunk.

On the afternoon of March 25th, 2012, in Sweetgrass County, Trooper *more* ▶





Montana Trooper

continued

Jason Fetterhoff stopped a Minnesota sport utility vehicle driven by a lone female that was bound for Minnesota as a result of a registration violation. With consent, he located three large duffel bags in the cargo area which were filled with sixty pounds of marijuana, two pounds of hash, and \$560 in cash.

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On the morning of May 23rd, 2012, a husband and wife were traveling from South Dakota to Idaho Falls on vacation. Near Spearfish, SD, the husband turned



over driving duties to his wife so that he could sleep. The husband laid down on the 3rd seat and attempted to rig the seat belt around his waist. The wife was westbound on I-90 in the right lane just past milepost 188 off ramp when she apparently fell asleep at the wheel and failed to negotiate a right curve in the road. The vehicle crossed the left lane and struck the guardrail end on the left shoulder. The vehicle rotated clockwise, tearing out an approximate 40 foot sec-

tion of guardrail face. The guardrail face folded and pierced the firewall. The guardrail penetrated the dash and struck the wife in the leg, but both occupants survived. This crash was investigate by Trooper Glen Barcus.

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On June 8th, 2012, on I-90 near milepost 432 westbound, a truck was pulling a 30 foot boat from North Carolina to Seattle. The left front tire of the pickup blew out, and the driver lost control of the vehicle. It went into the median, jackknifed, and then went across both eastbound lanes. As the vehicle exited the median, the boat broke loose from the trailer and rolled onto its roof. No one was injured, but it took two hours and two large wreckers to get the boat turned over and placed back onto the trailer. This crash was investigated by Trooper Jason Hoppert (MHP 205).



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On May 15th, 2012, the pilot of this Glasair III made an emergency landing

on the West Fork Road, south of Darby. Unfortunately, the right tire went off the road, sending the high-performance aircraft into a culvert and fence. Sections of both wings and the landing gear were torn off. The pilot, who suffered only minor injuries, had been traveling cross-country to deliver the airplane to his boss, who had just purchased it that morning and had not even seen it yet. Photo by Trooper Scott Bennett.



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Trooper Scott Bennett found this modified stop sign along U.S. Highway 191 near Yellowstone Park.



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