No Sign Of Boat Reported Flipped Off Holden Beach

Local water rescue units, a U.S. Coast Guard boat and a search helicopter from Elizabeth City were unable to locate a catamaran reported capsized in heavy seas off Holden Beach Saturday afternoon.

According to chief BMCS J.D. Arndt, the Oak Island Coast Guard Station was called at about noon by the Tri-Beach Rescue Squad, requesting assistance in locating a small boat that reportedly flipped over off the west end of Holden Beach. It was not known whether anyone was aboard the capsized craft.

The station launched its 41-foot patrol boat to respond along with boats from Holden Beach and Ocean Isle Beach water rescue services and N.C. Wildlife. In addition, a helicopter was dispatched from the Coast Guard air station at Elizabeth City, Arndt said.

Despite an extensive search of the area, no sign of a catamaran was found. A communications check with local boat rental agencies found no reports of missing catamarans. The case remains open, pending further developments, Arndt said.

Last Wednesday (June 22) evening at about 7 o'clock, the station was called by the Brunswick County Emergency Communications (911) Center reporting a person adrift on a boat to a safe harbor.

COAST GUARD REPORT

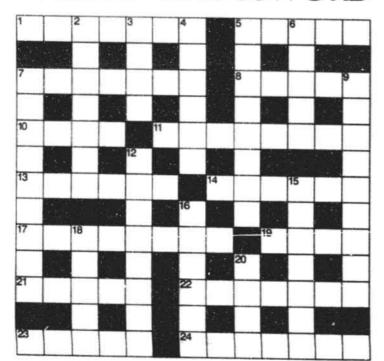
sailboard approximately 1,000 yards off the 100 block of Holden Beach.

The station notified Holden Beach Water Rescue and launched its 21-foot fast-response inflatable boat to assist. The Coast Guard boat arrived and found the windsurfer's sail floating in the water. Holden Beach rescue personnel reported that the sailer was on the beach with his board. The 21-footer made its way close to shore and returned the sail to its owner, Arndt said.

Earlier that day, Oak Island was called by the 34-foot vessel Baby Nell, reporting itself disabled, anchored and slowly taking on water about a mile off Frying Pan light. The station launched its 41 footer, which arrived on the scene and "secured the situation with the flooding" and stood by to wait until assistance requested by the boat's skipper arrived, Arndt said.

That help never came, so the boat owner contacted a commercial salvor. Due to threatening weather, the 41-footer began towing the Baby Nell toward shore until it met with the salvage operator, who took over the tow and brought the stricken

WEEKLY CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- Income
- Nervous
- 7. Fruitful 8. Coalesce
- 10. Trim
- 11. Rival
- 13. Fasten 14. Deaden
- Happened
- 19. Against
- 21. Frighten
- 22. Discover
- 23. Squander

North Myrtle Bch.

CLUES DOWN

- 2. Judgment
- Tack
- 4. Immune 5. Boisterous frolic
- Signaling
- 7. Numerous 9. Set up
- 12. Acquit
- 15. Scare
- 16. Outcome
- 18. Grade
- 20. Second letter of Greek alphabet

24. Disaster

(Answers are on Page 8-C)

U-BR



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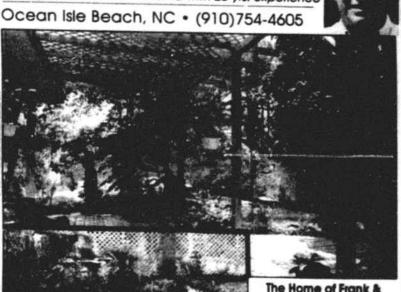
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