

Collision Sinks *Icelander*, Crew Safe

by Win Anderson of *The Evening Star* in Anacortes, Wash. (reprinted with permission)

The troller *Icelander* was adrift on a stiff swell between sets in the early morning of Aug. 15, 2002, eight miles west of Depot Bay.

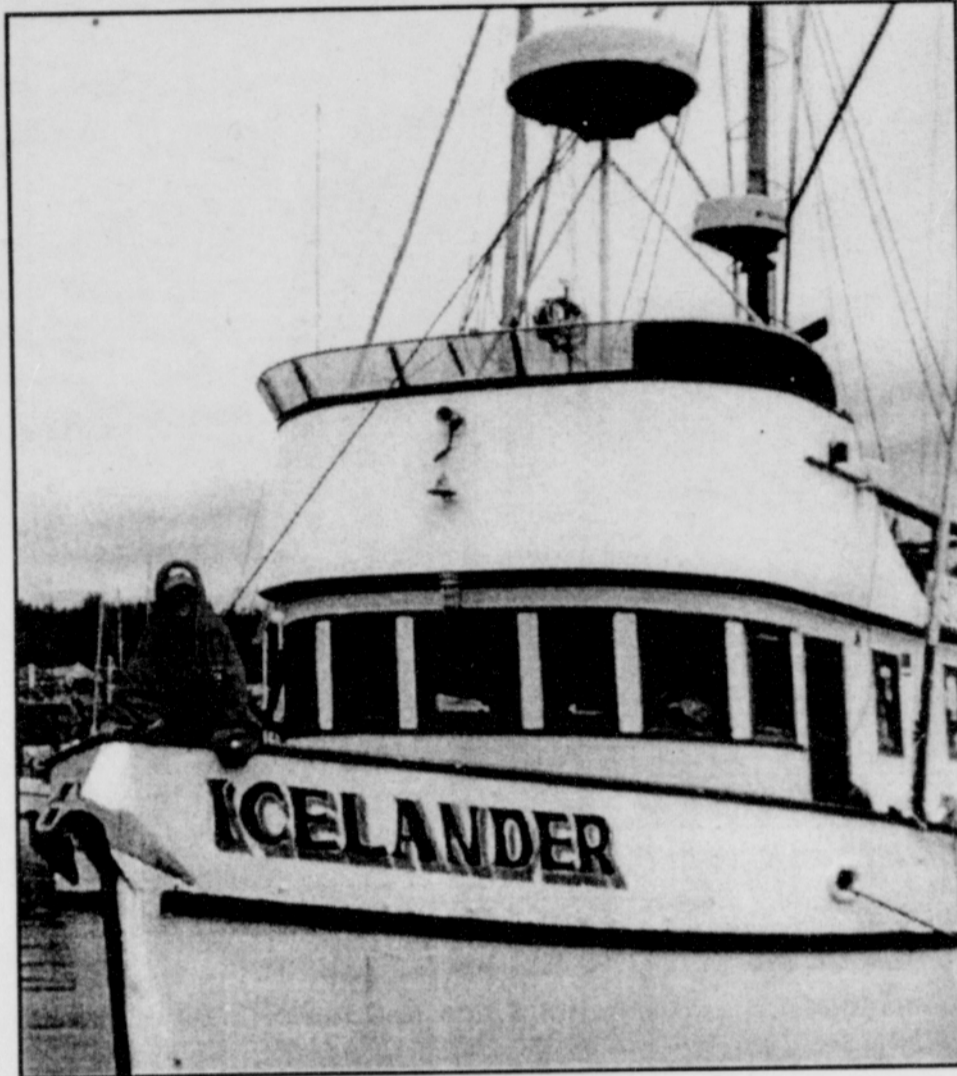
Skipper Bob Snell was below checking on the refrigeration plant. Deckhand Chad Goodell was asleep. They would start fishing when daylight broke in a few hours.

But someone else was asleep too. The helmsman of the dragger *Aja* out of Newport, Ore., traveling at seven knots failed to see the strobe and bright mast light on the drifting *Icelander*. Failed to see the fishing boat in the moonlight although there was at least a mile of visibility. Failed to see it on radar although the 46-foot *Icelander* would have lit up the screen from more than five miles away.

At 12:30 a.m., there was a hideous splintering crash as the 80-foot *Aja* drove her bow three feet into the stout wooden hull of the smaller *Icelander*, ripping through the two-inch fir planking and tearing up the two by three-inch oak frames just aft of amidships on the starboard side.

It was no contest. A 186-ton dragger vs. a 35-ton troller.

Quickly recovering his senses, Snell issued a Mayday alert on his radio, and turned on the pumps. He and Goodell donned their survival suits when they saw the water pouring in was



Chad Goodell on the *Iceland*

overwhelming. They launched the skiff and rowed to the *Aja*, standing nearby.

Then Bob Snell, a 30-year veteran of the sea, watched his vessel slowly roll over and sink.

The boat that Guemes islanders Dave Hartford and Mike Gwost helped maintain; the boat that Snell and son Dan had successfully fished for 12 years from Icy Bay, Alaska, to Monterrey Bay, Calif.; the boat that

caught, froze, and delivered beautiful salmon steaks to the Guemes store; the boat that bore the hail port "*Guemes Island*" on its stern lay in 60 fathoms on the bottom of the Pacific. On board are Snell's lifetime collection of fishing gear, his charts, tools, electronics, and personal items.

"I took my wallet and cell phone. That's it," Snell told *The Star*.

"The main thing is I'm alive. No one was killed or injured."

The timing is terrible. Snell wants to

get back on the water, but has a date with radiation therapy for prostate cancer this fall. Meanwhile with this fishing season over for him, he has to find and outfit a boat in time for the December/January crab season – for which he has already made a considerable investment. Insurance will cover the value of the *Iceland*, but it is questionable whether he will be able to recover damages for down time.

Child Care Center Applications Available

Applications for the Tenas Illahee Child Care Center are available as of Feb. 1 and will be accepted after Feb. 15. Families with children age 6 weeks through 10 years old are encouraged to apply.

The center's opening date will be announced by Feb. 15. It will open with 5 to 10 children during the first week, with no afterschool care. Capacity will increase periodically until the center is at full capacity by June.

You may pick up an application at the Siletz Tribal administration building between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. To have an application mailed or faxed to you, contact Susan Trachsel, Child Care director, by phone: 541-444-8303 or 1-800-922-1399, ext. 303; or 541-444-2450; or e-mail: susant@ctsi.nsn.us.

There is no deadline to turn in applications, although the sooner they get in, the sooner you can join!

By our charter, we accept children in the following order of priority: 1) children of members of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon (CTSI); 2) children of employees of CTSI; 3) children of members of the community.

Tenas Illahee Logo Contest

The Tenas Illahee Child Care Center (young land or place where they are) would like to invite you to compete in an artwork logo contest. Children are encouraged to submit their artwork.

\$250 Grand Prize for Winner!

Honorable Mention artwork will be displayed in the center. Please submit your artwork no later than (post-marked by) Feb. 15, 2003:

Logo Contest
Tenas Illahee Child Care Center
P.O. Box 549
Siletz, OR 97380-0549

Educational Child Care for Our Future

CHS Will Handle Out-of-Area Benefits

Beginning Jan. 1, 2003, the Contract Health Services (CHS) Department will begin administrating the benefits (vision, dental, and hearing) for tribal members who live out of the 11-county service area.

An individual health application is a registration requirement for each tribal member who wishes to receive benefits. These applications are being sent to the current address on file for those who have received services before. If you do not receive a form, please call the CHS office to have one sent to you.

You will need to submit documentation that verifies your out-of-the-area residence. You can submit a copy of a current utility bill or other appropriate documents. In addition, please submit a copy of your insurance card if you have private insurance, including Medicare or Medicaid.

Once you are registered, you will need to call the CHS office for pre-authorization to receive benefits. Your contact person is Rhonda Attridge or Shannon Case at 1-800-628-5720. Rhonda and Shannon are available from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays; and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Donations Needed!

The Tenas Illahee Child Care Center will open soon! We're in need of educational toys and books for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and elementary school-age children.

We would like books and toys in good condition that are easily cleaned. If you or someone you know has anything you think children will love or that a day care center needs, please contact Susan Trachsel at 541-444-8303; 1-800-922-1399, ext. 303; or 541-444-2236; or at traxfam@harborside.com. Any amount will help!