

Atlanta zoo names cockroach after Patriots quarterback Brady

Associated Press

ATLANTA — More than a week after the Falcons fell victim to the biggest comeback in Super Bowl history, an Atlanta zoo has named a cockroach after

Patriots quarterback Tom Brady.

Zoo Atlanta says on its Facebook page that it had a bet with Rhode Island's Roger Williams Park Zoo that called for the loser to name a baby animal after the win-

ning team's star quarterback. Both zoos figured the loser would be pretty bitter about the game, so they agreed the animal in question would be a Madagascar hissing cockroach.

The zoo introduced a

whole family of cockroaches in a video Monday, including a tiny Tom Brady.

Brady and the Patriots came back from a 25-point deficit to defeat Atlanta 34-28 in overtime to win the team's fifth Super Bowl title.



A juvenile Madagascar hissing cockroach at the Atlanta Botanical Garden.

Wikimedia Commons

Ex-crewman mourns loss of brother, friends in boat disaster

By DAN JOLING
Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Dylan Hatfield got one last chance to see his brother and five other crewmen on the Destination, a 98-foot crab boat missing and presumed sunk in the Bering Sea.

The Destination was tied up Thursday in the Aleutian Islands port of Dutch Harbor, preparing to leave. Hatfield, 29, had just come in from the Bering Sea on a different boat. He had worked on the Destination off and on for seven years, and when he left, his older brother, 36-year-old Darrik Seibold, replaced him.

"We went down to the boat, brought a case of beer, said hello to everybody, gave everybody big hugs, told stories and had laughs," Hatfield said. Afterward, they all went out for pizza at the Norwegian Rat Saloon.

"I got to tell the fellas I loved them, I got to hug my brother and tell him that I loved him, and then they left," Hatfield said.

Early Friday, the Destination left for St. Paul Island, one of the tiny Pribilof Islands in the vast Bering Sea.

On Saturday morning, Hatfield got the call: the Destination was missing 2 miles off another Pribilof Island, St. George. The Coast Guard had received an emergency location radio transmission from a device that transmits when it hits saltwater.

Searchers rushed to the scene. They found an oil slick, a life ring and buoys. They emergency location beacon was floating in the slick.

The lack of debris, the failure to make a mayday call, the absence of lifeboats or mariners in survival suits pointed to a sudden tragedy.

"In my mind, they rolled over," Hatfield said. "I'm almost positive that those boys are still on the boat."

Inherently dangerous

Commercial fishing is inherently dangerous, and crab fishing in the Bering Sea is notoriously so. Fishermen work winters in icy, heaving plat-

forms handling heavy, unfor-

giving equipment. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health notes that fishermen drop crab pots, each weighing 750 to 850 pounds empty, rigged to hundreds of feet of coiled line and buoys used to recover them from the ocean bottom.

Just getting to the fishing grounds is dangerous. Vessels stack the heavy pots on their main deck in three to five tiers high as they travel in shallow ocean that sees big waves, high wind and icing that can make a boat top-heavy.

'The only people who know what happened are on the bottom of the ocean.'

Dylan Hatfield

brother of Darrik Seibold, who is presumed drowned after boat disaster

In the 1990s, 73 people died in the Bering Sea crab fishery as the result of capsizing, sinking, falling overboard or an industrial accident. Two factors, however, have dramatically lowered that rate of nearly eight deaths annually.

The Coast Guard and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in 1999 instituted an upgraded inspection program with an emphasis on stability and safety. Vessels found lacking were not allowed to leave port.

Federal managers also changed the fishery. Before 2005, boats rushed out from ports "derby style," trying to catch as much crab as possible until a quota was met, even if it meant fishing in dangerous conditions.

That was replaced with "crab rationalization," in which most of the catch was guaranteed to boat owners. That meant they could use fewer boats, take longer to catch their quota and sit out dangerous conditions.

It also meant hundreds of crew members lost their jobs. However, safety improved. From October 1999 through last year, 10 lives have been lost, according to the national institute.

Heading out

The Destination was on its way to St. Paul and planned to drop off bait on the island before heading out for a week or two to fish. The boat was carrying 200 crab pots and probably about 15,000 pounds of bait, Hatfield said.

The boat had just rounded the northeast quarter of St. George Island, an area known for turbulent water, when it went down.

"You get the shelf shallowing-up there, and lots of tide," Hatfield said. "It's always really cold around those islands."

A number of factors probably led to a capsizing, he said. The boat may have iced up from sea spray freezing in 20-degree temperatures. An alarm in the engine or steering room may have malfunctioned.

The boat had three tanks for holding crab. Pumps keep water circulating to them. If a pump shut off, it could cause a tank to go slack — partially emptied of water that provides stability, Hatfield said.

When a big wave hits, and the boat rolls in one direction, a slack tank makes it harder to recover.

"It's never the first one," Hatfield said. "They probably took a big one, laid 'em over, and they didn't recover. Then they took another one, and another one, until she probably just rolled over."

The vessel owners, F/V Destination, Inc., have not released name of the six crewmen.

He agreed that whatever happened probably came on suddenly. A half hour before the boat disappeared, it was in calm water on the lee of St. George Island, Barcott said by email.

Seibold leaves a 3-year-old son. The cause of the tragedy likely will never be known, Hatfield said.

"The only people who know what happened are on the bottom of the ocean," he said.



Courtesy of Dylan Hatfield

Dylan Hatfield, left, and his brother Darrik Seibold in Sand Point, Alaska. Hatfield said his 36-year-old brother was one of six men missing and presumed drowned when a crabbing vessel Destination went missing Saturday, near St. George, Alaska.

FEBRUARY 23

What's Ahead for the Regional and State Economies?

A Columbia Forum Presentation



Erik Knoder

Erik Knoder has lived in Oregon since 1988. He received his master's degree in natural resource economics from Oregon State University in 1999. Aside from labor market economics his research interests include land use, growth and development, and the fishing industry. Erik joined the Oregon Employment Department as a regional economist June of 2003 and works in Newport. He is responsible for generating and disseminating labor market information for Lincoln, Tillamook, Clatsop and Columbia counties.



Josh Lehner

Josh Lehner is an Economist with the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis. He develops the quarterly Oregon Economic forecast, including outlooks for employment, income and housing. Additional responsibilities include forecasting revenues for the Oregon Lottery, Oregon Judicial Department and state tobacco taxes.

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