



Press Release

Date: December 11, 2006

Contact: Benjamin M. Strong
(212) 668-7762
benjamin.m.strong@uscg.mil

AMVER VESSELS SEARCH FOR HOCKEY LEGEND'S DAUGHTER

NEW YORK – Canadian and United States Coast Guard resources continue to search for the daughter of hockey legend Bob Gainey. On Dec 9 Laura Gainey, a crew member aboard the Sailing Vessel Picton Castle, was washed overboard by a rogue wave over 400 miles off the coast of Cape Cod, MA. Weather conditions were quite rough when Gainey was reported missing with winds gusting over 40 knots and waves of 20 feet.

In addition to Coast Guard ships and aircraft, the tanker ships Sachuest and Mindanao were diverted as part of the Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System (Amver) to search for Gainey. Other Amver vessels, including the Thor Shangai, Lake Phoenix, Hero, and Strong Patriot are participating in the search and rescue efforts.

The Amver system is a voluntary, worldwide ship reporting system. Prior to sailing, participating ships send a sail plan to the Amver computer center. Vessels then report every 48 hours until arriving at their port of call. This data is able to project the position of each ship at any point during its voyage. In an emergency, any rescue coordination center can request this data to determine the relative position of Amver ships near the distress location. On any given day there are over 3,000 ships available to carry out search and rescue services. Visit <http://www.amver.com> to learn more about this unique worldwide search and rescue system.

###