

Missing boat, 1 survivor found

by UPI

TAMPA, Fla. - The U.S. Coast Guard, hunting off Florida for a fishing boat with four ex-football players aboard, Monday found one person clinging to the overturned vessel.

The survivor was Nick Schuyler, who was said to be awake and talking to his rescuers, The St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times reported. He was being taken to a Tampa hospital, the newspaper said.

WTSP-TV, Tampa, reported it was getting word that a second person also was being brought in. Schuyler's father told the station the other three men had been wearing life vests.

The boat was discovered about 30 miles west of Tampa Bay.

Schuyler, a former University of South Florida player, had been aboard the 21-foot boat with former Tampa Bay Buccaneers Marquis Cooper and Corey Smith, and fellow USF player Will Bleakley. They had left Clearwater Pass's Seminole Boat Ramp early Saturday.

While the weather was good Saturday morning, with waves in the 4- to 6-foot range and winds 10-15 knots, conditions worsened during the afternoon and early Sunday as a front moved through. Waves reached 10-15 feet.

The failure of the boat to return home prompted a wide-scale air and sea search.

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