

Searchin' Sage



News Headlines-Ocean City, NJ, Boating Accident

Dog's Nose Knows, State Police Say, in Search for O.C. Boating Victims

State police enlisted the help of the Palisades Search and Rescue Dog Association to search for two missing people who were involved in a boat collision behind the Ocean City airport. Sage, the Bull Terrier, and Cody, a Border Collie, were called to action.

Pat Hawn used Sage first on Tuesday morning, pulling on the dog's neoprene wet suit. "She doesn't have a very thick coat, so she gets cold," Hawn explained. But Sage doesn't have to get into the water to do her job. The dogs are trained to bark when they detect the scent of a body under the water. Sage stood statue-like on the bow of the boat as it motored slowly up and down the channel.

Both dogs have earned a statewide reputation for tracking down human beings under harsh conditions. "They're the best in the state," State Police spokesman, John Hagarty, said of the two dogs.

(excerpted from O.C., N.J. newspaper)

