

Western Alaska mail sinks in Gulf

A van load of fourth class mail bound from the Lower 48 to Western Alaska is at the bottom of the Gulf of Alaska.

Nine 40-foot truck trailers — including one with 20,680 pounds of business mail and parcels — were wrenched from the Westward Venture cargo ship late last week during a storm.

Winds estimated at 90 miles an hour and 50-foot seas tore the trailers loose about 200 miles south of Cordova.

In addition to the mail, seven refrigerator trailers and a general cargo trailer with batteries and battery acid were lost, according to a spokesman for the Totem Ocean Trailer Express Co.

(Continued on Page Three)

Tracers should be filed

(Continued from Page One)

U.S. Postal Service spokeswoman Nancy Cain Schmitt said the mail and parcels were bound for Yakutat, Kodiak, Bethel and the Aleutian Chain.

She said Western Alaska residents

who have had parcels shipped to them within the past month from the East Coast or from the West Coast within the past two weeks should file tracers.

Postal Tracer Form 1050 is available at all post offices, according to Schmitt. She added that claims can be placed on insured parcels by those who mailed them.