

ACTIVITY: Swimming

CASE: **GSF 2005.05.28**

DATE: Saturday May 28, 2005

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at Daytona Beach Shores, Volusia County, Florida, USA.

29.2°N, 81.0°W

NAME: Alfonso Garcia

DESCRIPTION: The swimmer is a 33-year-old male from Miami.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 17h53, Daytona Beach recorded scattered clouds and nine mile visibility. The air temperature was 84°F [28.9°C], dew point 71.1°F [21.7°C], humidity 65%, sea level pressure 29.93 inches [1013.4 hPa], and wind direction was ESE at 4.6 mph [7.4 km/h].

MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 72% of the moon's visible disk illuminated. Last Quarter, May 30, 2005.

ENVIRONMENT: Lifeguards watching over the throng of beachgoers Saturday made no more rescues than normal, said Volusia County Beach Patrol spokesman Scott Petersohn. "There were very large crowds, but it's very slow," he said. Petersohn encouraged the many visitors to the beach on this busy weekend to swim near a lifeguard. Beachgoers were told by the National Weather Service in Melbourne to expect a moderate risk of rip currents this holiday weekend (Memorial Weekend), and lifeguards advised swimmers if caught in a rip to swim parallel to the shore until they become free of the current.

TIME: 17h30

NARRATIVE: Alfonso Garcia was swimming in the surf when he was reportedly bitten by the shark.

INJURY: Laceration to left foot.

TREATMENT: Garcia was taken by car to Halifax Medical Center in Daytona Beach where he was treated for an "extremely minor" laceration that required stitches, said Petersohn. According to hospital officials, Garcia was released from the hospital a short time later.

SPECIES INVOLVED: Not identified

SOURCES: Daytona News Journal, May 19, 2005, <http://www.newsjournalonline.com/NewsJournalOnline/News/Local/03AreaEAST01052905.htm>; <http://www.local10.com/news/4544917/detail.html>

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