

ACTIVITY: Playing

CASE: GSAF 2009.06.16

DATE: Tuesday June 16, 2009

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean just off Richards Road in Melbourne Beach, Brevard County, Florida, USA.

NAME: Kevin Crowley

DESCRIPTION: He is a 14-year-old male from Decatur, Georgia.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 17h53, Melbourne recorded clear skies and visibility was 10 miles. The air temperature was 87.1°F, dew point 73°F, humidity 63%, sea level pressure 29.95 in and wind direction was ESE at 11.5 mph.

MOON PHASE: Last Quarter, June 15, 2009

DEPTH OF WATER: "Shallow"

TIME: 17h30



Photo by Craig Rubadoux, Florida Today

When Kevin was in the hospital, his friends put a shark photo on his I-phone.

NARRATIVE: Kevin Crowley was visiting his grandparents in Melbourne Beach and was playing in the surf with friends. He was belly-down in the water when the accident took place. "Me and my friends were army crawling in the water when it just came at me and hit me, like a baseball bat," said Crowley,

INJURY: The teen sustained a two-inch laceration to his left arm.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: The teen's arm was wrapped in a T-shirt and he went to his grandparent's home two blocks away. The injury was subsequently repaired with six stitches at Holmes Regional Medical Center.

SPECIES: Shark involvement was not confirmed. According to the press, the injury was caused by a four-to five-foot-long, light brown creature.

Teen treated for possible shark bite off Melbourne Beach

MELBOURNE BEACH – For years, Kevin Crowley has visited his grandparents beachside home and hit the warm ocean waters for a little fun with friends.

But this time, the 14-year-old Decatur, Ga., boy has a different story to tell after a summertime splash Tuesday turned into a brief, but violent encounter with a possible shark.

“Me and my friends were army crawling in the water when it just came at me and hit me, like a baseball bat,” said Crowley, who was bitten by a four-to five-foot-long, light brown creature in shallow water just off of Richards Road.

“It just swam away.”

Kevin made it to his grandparents’ home two blocks away with his bloodied arm wrapped in a friend’s T-shirt.

The ninth-grader, who was belly down in the water, received six stitches at Holmes Regional Medical Center to his left arm to close a two-inch gash caused by the apparent shark bite.

The incident happened about 5:30 p.m. and, if confirmed, would be the first reported shark bite this year along Brevard’s 72-mile-long coastline. There were four shark bites recorded in Brevard last year, statistics show.

So far, there have been seven reported shark bites statewide this year with 32 recorded for 2008.

SOURCE: Florida Today, June 17, 2009, <http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20090617/BREAKINGNEWS/90617042/1006/news01/>
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