

ACTIVITY: Swimming

CASE: GSAF 2012.04.00

DATE: April 2012 (?)

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Gulf of Mexico at Sanibel Island, Lee County, Florida, USA.

NAME: Dylan Hapworth

DESCRIPTION: He is a male from Winslow, Maine. He is a freshman at Winslow High School and plays shortstop (and pitches) for their baseball team.

BACKGROUND

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 15 to 20 feet.

NARRATIVE: No details

INJURY: Bitten on his right shin.

TREATMENT: Eight stitches required to repair the injury. The doctor identified the wound as a shark bite.

SPECIES: Not identified, but it was a "small shark".

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL NOTEBOOK: A shark's tale for Hapworth

Dylan Hapworth, Winslow High School's freshman shortstop, went on a family vacation to Sanibel Island, Florida, a few weeks ago. He came back with a scar, and an interesting story to share with his friends.

While swimming in the Atlantic Ocean, Hapworth was bitten on the leg by a small shark.

"I was swimming maybe 15, 20 feet out, and it got me, I guess," Hapworth, who also pitches for the Black Raiders, said. "I got out of the water and I had a big gash in my leg."

At first, Hapworth didn't know he'd been bitten by a shark. He didn't get a good look at the animal. The doctor who stitched his leg up recognized the wound as a shark bite.

"At first I thought it was a crab," Hapworth said.

It took eight stitches to close the wound, Hapworth said, showing off the pink scar near his right shin. Hapworth said he'll probably go back in the ocean.

SOURCE: Travis Lazarczyk, tlazarczyk@centralmaine.com, Morning Sentinel, April 20, 2012, http://www.onlinesentinel.com/sports/a-sharks-tale-for-hapworth_2012-04-19.html