



**ACTIVITY:** Swimming

**CASE:** [GSAF 1983.06.29](#)

**DATE:** Wednesday June 29, 1983

**LOCATION:** The incident took place off 12th Street, Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida, USA.

**NAME:** Howard Rosen

**DESCRIPTION:** A 42-year-old male, an attorney from Miami.

### **BACKGROUND**

**TIME:** 11h00

**NARRATIVE:** Howard Rosen went to the beach instead of taking lunch. He reported that a "large fish" came from behind and grabbed his foot. "It thrashed me in the water," he said.

**INJURY:** Lacerations to left foot.

**FIRST AID / TREATMENT:** He was treated at Mount Sinai Hospital where the bite was closed with 27 stitches.

**SPECIES INVOLVED:** Rosen didn't see the shark and no species identification was made.

**SOURCE:** The Miami News, Thursday, June 30, 1983, page 5A  
Miami Herald, June 30, 1983, page 1C

### **Beach open after fish attack**

The waters off Miami Beach remained open to swimmers, and police were calling the fish attack on a bather yesterday an isolated incident. Miami attorney Howard Rosen, 42, was bitten by a fish while swimming in the ocean off 12th Street. He required 27 stitches to close a gash on his left foot, said officials at Mt. Sinai Hospital. The bite was described as a big cut on top of the foot and deep gashes on the sole, said Joyce Clark, hospital spokesman. She said hospital officials speculated the bite was made by a shark or barracuda. A Beach patrol officer said this morning that the wound looked like a barracuda took a "curiosity nip" and that there is no danger to other swimmers. He said it is rare for bathers to be bitten by a fish. "You have more of a chance of getting bit by a dog," he said.