

ACTIVITY: Unknown

CASE: GSAF 1987.05.25

DATE: Monday May 25, 1987

LOCATION: The incident took place at North Myrtle Beach, Horry County, South Carolina, USA.

NAME: Josia McSpadden

DESCRIPTION: He is a 12-year-old male from Indiana.

BACKGROUND

ENVIRONMENT: Myrtle Beach is located along South Carolina's northern coast, in Horry County. It is the center of the Grand Strand, 60 miles of beaches that stretches from the North Carolina border to Georgetown.

DEPTH OF WATER: Waist-deep

NARRATIVE: He felt a bump on his leg as the shark's upper jaw grazed his thigh.

INJURY: He sustained a six-inch laceration on his thigh.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: The boy was treated at Grand Strand Hospital in Myrtle Beach.

SPECIES INVOLVED: The bite was examined by South Carolina wildlife biologist Dean Cain, who said Josia was lucky because the shark did not clamp down on his leg. It was thought that a five- to six-foot shark was involved in this incident.

SOURCE: Charlotte Observer, May 28, 1987

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Clay Creswell, GSAF.

Shark Grazes Indiana Boy At S.C. Beach

Associated Press

NORTH MYRTLE BEACH —
An Indiana boy vacationing at North Myrtle Beach escaped serious injury this week when a 5- to 6-foot shark bit him.

It was the first such attack this year on the Grand Strand, officials said.

Josia McSpadden, 12, said he was waist-deep in water Monday when he felt a bump on his leg. Josia said the shark's upper jaw grazed his thigh, leaving a 6-inch cut.

The bite was examined by S.C. wildlife biologist Dean Cain, who said Josia was lucky because the shark did not clamp down on the leg. Cain said sharks are common near the Grand Strand shore, but shark attacks are not.

He said usually one shark attack a year is reported.