

ACTIVITY: Wading

CASE: GSAF 1999.09.04.b

DATE: Saturday September 4, 1999

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Typhoon Lagoon, in Walt Disney Water Park, Orange County, Florida, USA.

NAME: Troy Patterson

DESCRIPTION: He is a seven-year-old second grader at Incarnation School of Incarnation Catholic Church.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Third Quarter, September 2, 1999

DEPTH OF WATER: "A few feet"

NARRATIVE: Troy was at the park with his stepfather, John Perez, and was in the wading pool with a park instructor who was talking about the small sharks in the pool. The instructor told the waders that the sharks were friendly and would not bite, Perez said. As Troy stood on a ledge in a few feet of water, two sharks, each about three feet long, approached him. "He came up and bit me," Troy said Sunday night. "I jumped out of the water and it let go."

INJURY: The boy sustained a bite to the medial aspect of the left knee.

TREATMENT: The boy was treated at Town 'N Country Hospital on Saturday evening. "I got butterfly stitches and surgical glue and shots in the arm," Troy said.

SPECIES: A 0.9 metre [three-foot] shark

SOURCES: Keith Morelli, Tampa Tribune, September 6, 1999, page 6.

NOTE: This was a provoked incident; it involved a captive shark.



Swimming with sharks at Typhoon Lagoon's Shark Reef

Photo by chezp