

**ACTIVITY:** Body surfing

**CASE:** [GSAF 2000.09.11](#)

**DATE:** Monday September 11, 2000

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean north of the Hilton Daytona Beach Resort at 2500 S. Atlantic Ave in Daytona Beach Shores, Volusia County, Florida, USA. 29.2°N, 81°W

**NAME:** Jason Armstrong

**DESCRIPTION:** The swimmer is a 25-year-old white male from St. Petersburg, Florida. He was wearing a multi-colored bathing suit.

### **BACKGROUND**

**WEATHER:** At 13h53, Daytona Beach recorded partly cloudy skies and visibility of 10 miles [16.1 km]. The air temperature was 84.9°F [29.4°C], dew point 66°F [18.9°C], humidity 53%, sea level pressure 30.04 in [1017.1 hPa], and wind direction was East at 6.9 mph [11.1 km/h].

**MOON PHASE:** Waxing Gibbous, 95% of the moon's visible disk was illuminated. Full Moon, September 13, 2000.

**SEA CONDITIONS:** "Right now we are having unstable weather stirring up the ocean," said Beach Patrol Deputy Chief Joe Wooden. The rough surf conditions are expected to continue for at least the next two days. There were fishermen in the area.

**ENVIRONMENT:** According to Wooden, the weather and sea conditions are bringing in bait fish, which brings in sharks. Armstrong said he was swimming in a school of fish when he was bitten.

**DEPTH OF WATER AT INCIDENT SITE:** Waist-deep

**TIME:** 13h20

**NARRATIVE:** Armstrong told lifeguards the small shark bit his right hand. He grabbed the shark with his left hand and pulled free. Then he walked out of the water.

**INJURY:** The second, third and fourth fingers of the swimmer's right hand were injured. The second phalanges on third and fourth fingers were lacerated, the deepest cut was on the fourth finger. There was an abrasion on the inside of the second finger and cuts on the palm of the hand.

**TREATMENT:** Armstrong was taken to Halifax Medical Center and treated in the emergency room, and released.

**SPECIES INVOLVED:** According to the swimmer, the incident involved a shark about two to three feet in length.

**SOURCES:** Michael Giusti, Daytona Beach News Journal, September 12, 2000 edition, page 1A; (michael.giusti@news-jrnl.com); Orlando Sentinel, September 12, 2000, page D2

**CASE INVESTIGATOR:** Captain Scott Petersohn, Global Shark Accident File

