

ACTIVITY: Unknown

CASE: [GSAF 2004.03.31.b](#)

DATE: Wednesday March 31, 2004

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at Ocean Reef Park on Singer Island, Palm Beach County, Florida.

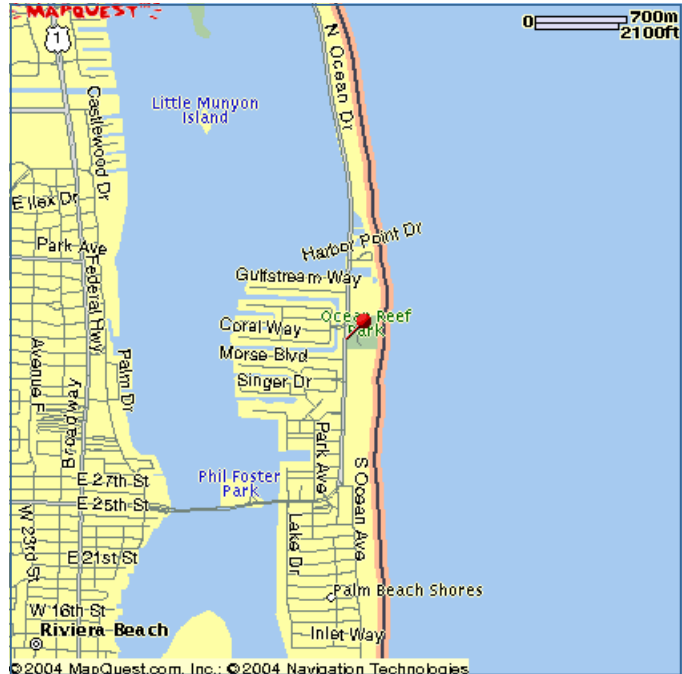
NAME: Todd Rapp

DESCRIPTION: He is a 26-year-old lifeguard.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: Full Moon, April 5, 2004

ENVIRONMENT: Ocean Reef Park is on the east side of A1A between Blue Heron Boulevard and Palm Beach Gardens Boulevard.



NARRATIVE: A training officer, Rapp was working off Singer Island when he felt a sharp pain in his foot. The swirling water hid the shark, so he never saw it.

INJURY: His right foot was bitten.

FIRST AID: "The lifeguards patched me up good and sent me to the hospital," said Rapp.

TREATMENT: At St. Mary's Medical Center, surgeons worked on his foot for three hours and put in numerous stitches. "The doctor stopped counting at 120," Rapp said. The shark's teeth missed major tendons and arteries, but Rapp was off the beach for more than a month.

NOTE: On June 2, 2004, Rapp competed with dozens of other lifeguards at Delray Beach Ocean Rescue's 18th annual lifeguard competition.

SPECIES INVOLVED: Not identified.

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