

**ACTIVITY:** Swimming

**CASE:** **GSF 2004.06.14**

**DATE:** Monday June 14, 2004

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at Disney Vero Beach Resort, Indian River County, Florida, USA.

*27.6°N, 80.4°W*

**NAME:** Unknown

**DESCRIPTION:** The incident involved a female.

### **BACKGROUND**

**WEATHER:** See next page

**MOON PHASE:** New Moon, June 17, 2004

**ENVIRONMENT:** Diving birds were feeding on baitfish that, in turn, attract larger predatory fish, including sharks. Wabasso Lifeguard Matt Gilligan, on duty when the incident occurred, reports he spotted a shark at Wabasso shortly afterwards and red-flagged the beach.

**NARRATIVE:** The girl was in the ocean because she wanted to have her picture taken with pelicans which were diving in the water.

**INJURY:** Lacerations to foot.

**FIRST AID / TREATMENT:** Med-911 alerted Wabasso lifeguards as did Disney, and the girl was taken to a local hospital where the wound was repaired with 20 stitches.

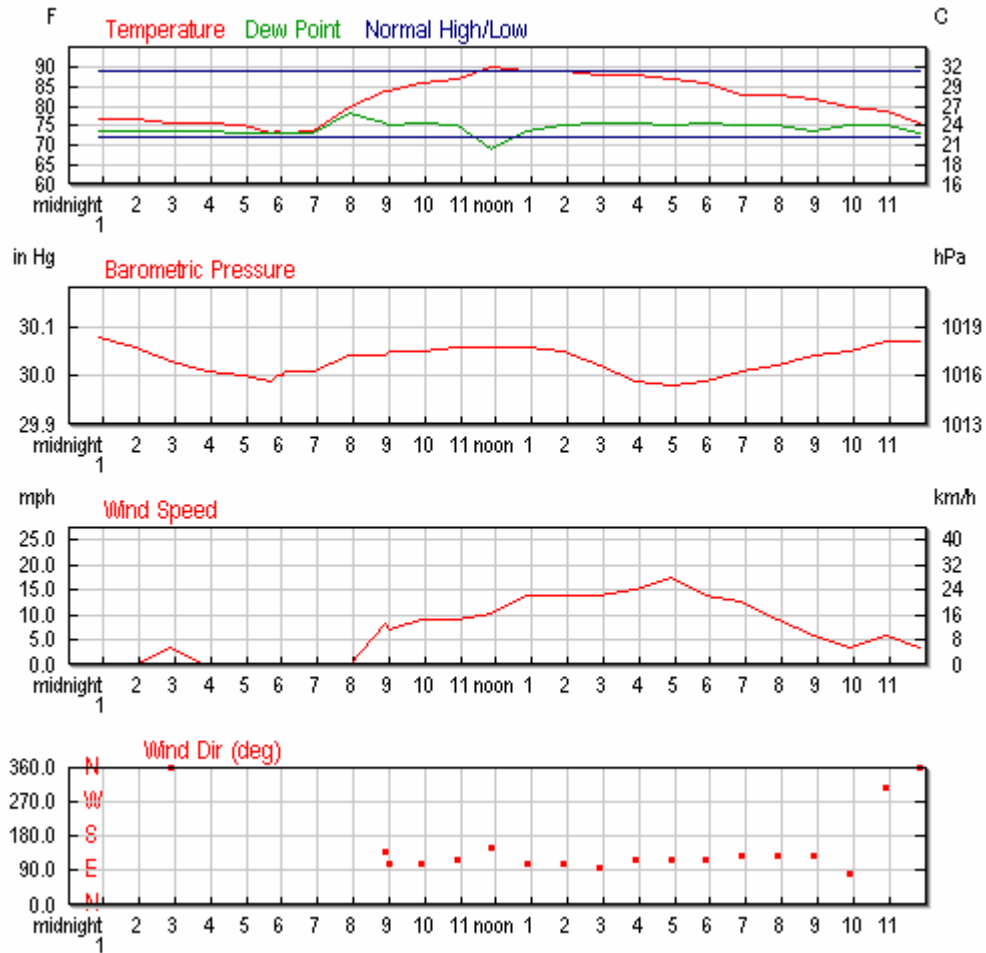
**SPECIES INVOLVED:** Lifeguard Eric Carson points out that while the injury may have been caused by shark, it is also possible that it was caused by some other large fish that was also feeding on the baitfish.

**SOURCES:** Vero Beach Press Journal, June 23, 2004; Global Lifeguards

**REPORTED BY:** Global Lifeguards,

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*Weather at Vero Beach, Florida, on June 14, 2004*



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