

ACTIVITY: Standing

CASE: GSAF 2006.06.20

DATE: Tuesday June 20, 2006

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean south of Ponce de Leon Inlet at New Smyrna Beach, Volusia County, Florida, USA. 29.1°N, 81°W

NAME: Elizabeth Schelk

DESCRIPTION: She is a 22-year-old female.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 12h53, New Smyrna Beach recorded partly cloudy skies and 10 mile visibility. The air temperature was 87°F [30.6°C], dew point 70°F [21.1°C], humidity 57%, sea level pressure 30.11 in [1019.4 hPa], and wind direction was East at 10.4 mph [16.7 km/h].

MOON PHASE: Waning Crescent, 29% of the moon was illuminated.

SEA CONDITIONS / ENVIRONMENT: The water is very warm right now and there are a lot of bait fish in the shallow waters, which draws the young sharks toward the shore, according to Beach officials.

TIME: 13h00

NARRATIVE: The woman was standing in the water south of the jetty and north of North Flagler Avenue when a small shark may have nipped her foot. She said something grabbed her right foot and then let go.

INJURY: She sustained a two small puncture wounds on her right foot. The two-inch-long puncture wounds were "so minor they could have been caused by a piece of glass," reported Captain Scott Petersohn.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: The surfer flagged down an officer, reported the incident and was treated at the scene by the Beach Patrol. The officer treated the wounds on the beach with a several Band-Aids. Schelk declined further treatment and "she walked away," he said.

SPECIES: Beach Patrol said the incident may have involved a juvenile shark, possibly a black tip or spinner shark between one and three feet in length. The small sharks are inexperienced hunters and they bump into what they think is food, officials said.

SOURCES: Local6.com, <http://www.local6.com/news/9415275/detail.html>
<http://www.wesh.com/news/9404836/detail.html>

REPORTED BY: Peter Immerz

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Captain Scott Petersohn, Volusia County Beach Patrol

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