

**ACTIVITY:** Swimming

**CASE:** [GSAF 2012.06.14.a](#)

**DATE:** Thursday June 14, 2012

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean off 77th Avenue North in Myrtle Beach, Horry County, South Carolina, USA.

**NAME:** Jordon Garosalo

**DESCRIPTION:** He is a 16-year-old male from Canton, Ohio.



## **BACKGROUND**

**WEATHER:** At 13h53, North Myrtle Beach recorded partly cloudy skies and visibility of 10 miles. The air temperature as 82.9°F, dew point 60.1°F, humidity 46%, sea level pressure 30.05 inches and wind direction was North at 11.5 mph, with gusts to 17.3 mph.

**MOON PHASE:** Waning Crescent, 18% of the Moon was illuminated. Last Quarter, June 11, 2012.

**SEA CONDITIONS:** The water in the area was “murkier than usual”, according to Lifeguard Denny Starr. The measured sea surface temperature at Springmaid Pier was 78.1°F.

**ENVIRONMENT:** On the Charlotte Observer site, *napalminthemorning* wrote: “The problem is that the . . . lifeguards at Myrtle Beach allow surf fishing with cut bait while people are swimming. Last year was at the beach, this guy was actually using a whole fish head as bait and surf fishing at 2 pm. Lifeguards said there is no regulation against that. Lo and behold a ten-foot shark started going back and forth about 15 feet from shore and actually scraped one kid’s leg as he swam past. The shark was in water so shallow half his body was showing.”

**TIME:** 13h20

**NARRATIVE:** “We were just chilling in the water, said Austin, Jordon’s brother, when [Jordon] just jumped.” “Something latched on to my foot and I kicked it off,” said Jordon. Neither of them saw a shark.

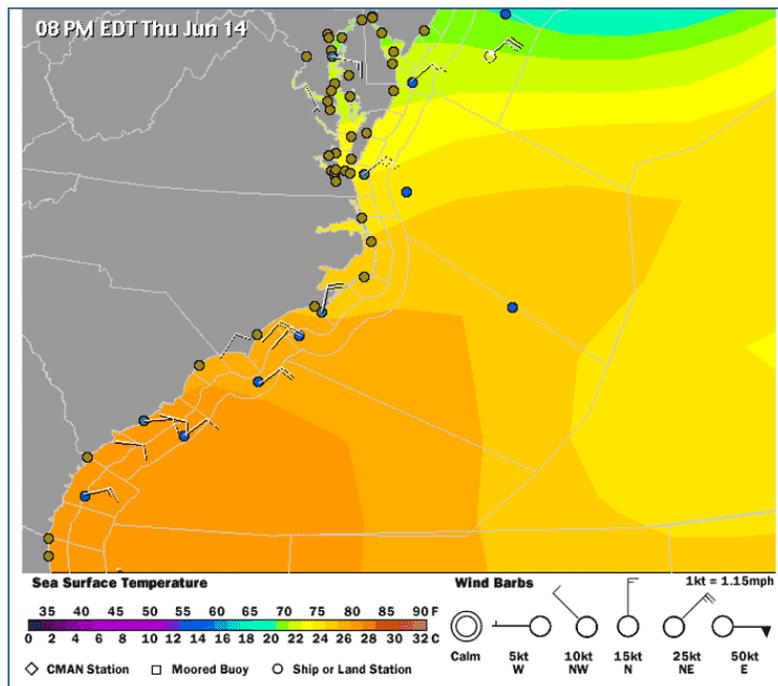
A total of four people, a woman and three men (including Jordon), were bitten in a nine-block (8-mile) stretch of water off 72nd/73rd, 74th, 77th/78th and 82nd Avenue North within a 15-minute period. They were bitten on their feet, calves or both, and one person sustained a bite to the hand. Lifeguard Starr said, “Even the guys that got bit didn’t see it. They’re definitely shark bites. One guy’s foot was opened up. The other had a full mouth print around his leg. It was reported that one of the victims was in chest deep water when it happened.”

**INJURY:** He was bitten on the right foot. “There were about five large indentations on his calf. The blood was pouring down to his ankle and he had five sets of teeth marks,” said witness John Gonas.

**TREATMENT:** Three of the victims were transported by EMS to Grand Strand Regional Medical Center the hospital and the fourth was driven in a personal vehicle. The injuries were not life-threatening.

**SOURCES:** Ryan Naquin, CarolinaLive.com; Jim Hulen, North Myrtle Beach Online.com, June 13, 2011; NorthMyrtleBeachOnline, June 14, 2012.

**CASE INVESTIGATOR:** Clay Creswell, GSAF



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