

ACTIVITY: Boogie boarding

CASE: GSAF 2005.06.25

DATE: Saturday June 25, 2005

LOCATION: The attack took place in the Gulf of Mexico at Miramar Beach near the Gulf Holiday Travel Park in Destin, Walton County, Florida, USA. The location is 45 miles east of Pensacola on the Florida Panhandle.

NAME: Jamie Marie Daigle

DESCRIPTION: She was a 14-year-old female, a visitor from Gonzales, Louisiana.

BACKGROUND

WEATHER: At 10h53, the sky was partly cloudy and visibility was 10 miles [16.1 kilometers]. The air temperature was 82.9°F [28.3°C], dew point 69.1°F [20.6°C], humidity 63%, sea level pressure 30.01 inches [1016.1 hPa] and wind direction was east-northeast at 11.5 mph [18.5 kph].

MOON PHASE: Waning Gibbous, 84% of the Moon was illuminated.

SEA CONDITIONS: The sea was calm and the sea surface temperature was 84°F.

ENVIRONMENT: The attack took place at the height of the summer tourist season along the coast and the beaches were packed with people. The two girls beyond the second sandbar in an area (drop-off) where large sharks are known to feed on baitfish.

DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 200 to 250 yards, beyond the sandbar

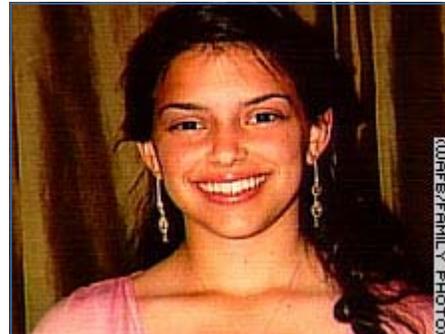
TIME: 11h15

NARRATIVE: Jamie Daigle was swimming with her boogie board. She and her friend, 14-year-old Felicia Venable, were off the campground when they noticed a dark shadow in the water – a shark feeding on a large school of fish. Felicia saw the attack and Jamie being dragged under the surface.

A surfer, 54-year-old Tim Dicus was about 200 yards from shore, just past the second sandbar, when he heard a scream. "I turned around and saw one of the girls (Felicia) swimming frantically towards the beach," he said. "The other girl had disappeared and there was a big dark spot where she used to be in the water, which I recognized as a blood pool."

When Dicus reached Jamie the bloody circle of water was 20 feet in diameter and she was floating face down. "So I tried to pull her from the water – the shark had made an attack when I was trying to get her out of the water," said Dicus. He was able to repel the shark and haul the unconscious girl onto his board and said the shark attempted to bite the girl's hand while she was on his surfboard. Dicus said the shark made about six attempts to get at the girl on his board as he made his way to shore. "[The shark] just followed us right to the beach," Dicus said.

Dicus said he punched the shark on the nose as it tried to attack him. Two other swimmers came with a raft, which they put the girl in and towed to shore. A witness, 49-year-old Jeff White of Atlanta, said his 23-year-old son, Chris, was in the raft "He said that at one point the shark was underneath them, so they stopped paddling. Somebody distracted the shark



Jamie Daigle

and they brought the girl the rest of the way in." White said his son thought the girl may have died before they got her to shore.

INJURY: Fatal. "The damage on her left leg [thigh] was really extensive, and I didn't know whether she had just gone into shock but she'd pretty much stopped bleeding by the time I got her on to the beach," said Dicus.

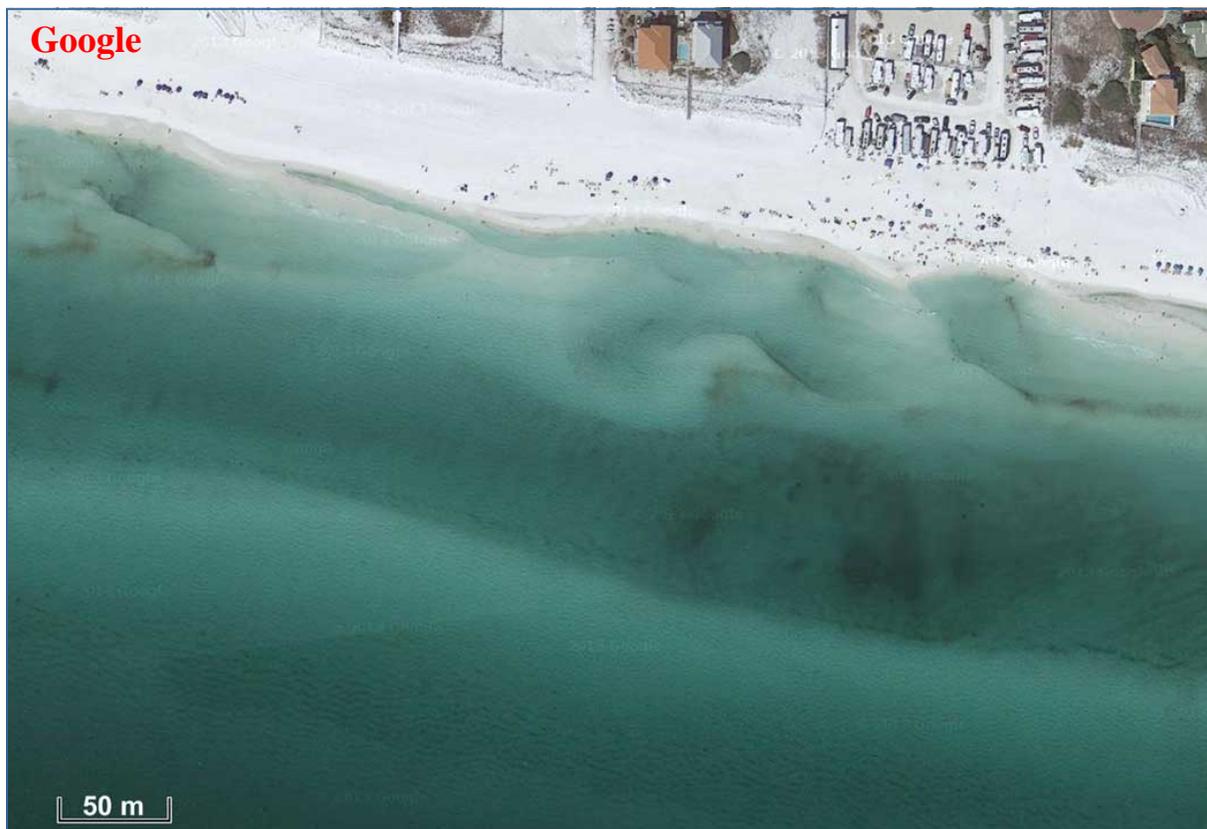
FIRST AID: Unknown

TREATMENT: The girl was transported to the Sacred Heart Hospital in South Walton where she was pronounced dead.

SPECIES: According to Dicus, the attack involved a bull shark about eight feet in length. Autopsy confirmed Dicus' identification.

NOTE: Authorities closed about 30 miles of beaches to swimming shortly after the attack.

CASE INVESTIGATOR: Erich Ritter, Ph.D.

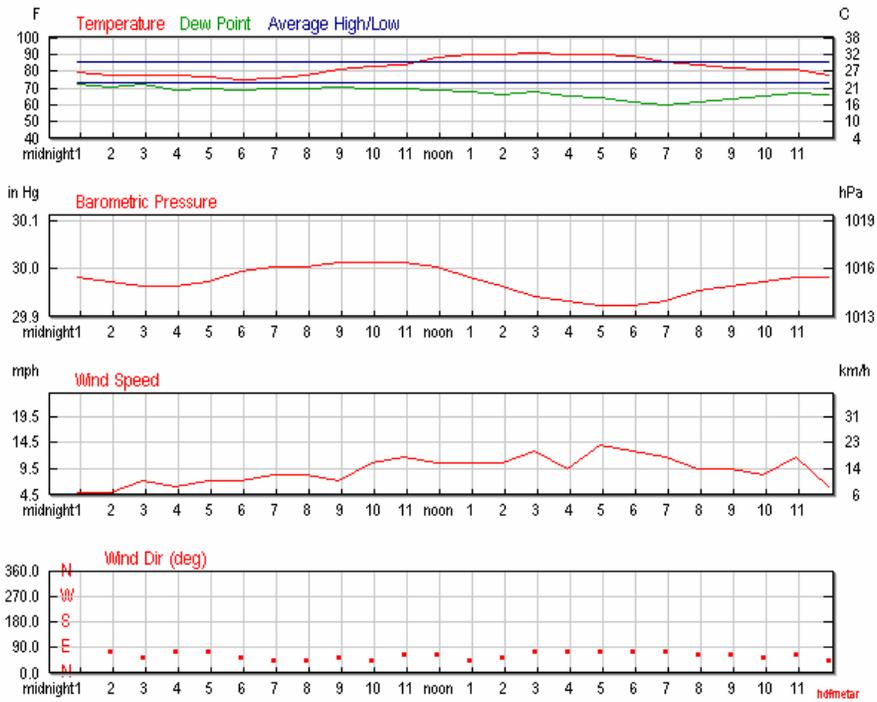




On Sunday, June 26, 2005, a bull shark was photographed swimming close to shore at less than a quarter mile from where Jamie Daigle was attacked and killed the previous day.

Photos by Jason C. Miller/Associated Press





June 25, 2005 Meteorological data for Destin, Florida.