

Female swimmer attacked by shark in Hawaii

by UPI

HONOLULU - A California woman was attacked by a shark this week while swimming in Hawaii and received multiple lacerations to her foot.

The unidentified woman went snorkeling near a South Maui resort Monday. The shark bit her right foot and calf before she was able to free herself and swim to shore, the Honolulu Star-Bulletin reported.

Once the woman made it to shore, a tourniquet was applied to her leg to stem the bleeding until medical personnel could arrive.

Monday's attack was the most recent in the South Maui region where three reported shark attacks had occurred during the last two years.

Yet state aquatics education specialist Russell Sparks downplays the frequency of such attacks, citing the small percentage of swimmers experiencing such events.

"It's pretty insignificant when you think of all the thousands of people in the water in the state," he told the newspaper.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

Female swimmer attacked by shark in Hawaii by UPI