



## Rising Above Backstory

Bethany Hamilton began surfing as a child and at age 11 participated in her first competition. Her plans of becoming a pro surfer were seemingly ended at age 13 when she was attacked by a 14-foot tiger shark on October 31, 2003 while surfing near Tunnels Beach in Hawaii. She lost her left arm just below her shoulder and miraculously survived the attack.

Within months, Bethany was back on her surfboard. She continues to pursue her dream of becoming a professional surfer and has entered numerous contests. She won 5th place at the 2004 National Scholastic Surfing Association Nationals Championships, has made the finals in several other events, and has won three contests. Her determination to rise above adversity continues to inspire the people around her.

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