

1 whale and just interact with it, and not asking for too  
2 much.

3 I remember she said she was really proud of  
4 the interaction that we did; nothing really out of the  
5 ordinary.

6 Q. And, what occurred immediately prior to her  
7 entering the pool?

8 A. One behavior that she was doing was called a  
9 layout mimic which basically meant she would lay on her  
10 back, and the whale was trained to do that as well. So,  
11 the whale did lay out on his back and she held on to the  
12 whale's flipper.

13 She had done that countless times in shows  
14 before, not with the Tilikum but at the edge of the pool  
15 she interacted with other whales. And, right before  
16 that or right when that happened, I saw her get up to  
17 her knees and put her hands on her pony tail.

18 And, when I saw that she couldn't break free,  
19 I immediately got up and hit the alarm, and at that  
20 point as soon as I hit the alarm, I ran back to get some  
21 air. But, on the way, I didn't see anything in the  
22 water at all. I didn't see her on the edge of the pool  
23 at all. I didn't see the whale at all either.

24 Q. Did you see Tilikum holding on to her hair?

25 A. The last image I have of the two, yes. She

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1 could not break free. She had both hands on her pony  
2 tail being pulled toward the water.

3 Q. About how far away were you from Ms.  
4 Brancheau?

5 A. I would say approximately 20 feet.

6 Q. And, as the spotter, that was your job to  
7 watch her interaction?

8 A. Correct, and be by the emergency tone box.

9 Q. And, after you saw her holding onto her hair,  
10 what did you do next?

11 A. I immediately got up and turned around and  
12 had to run or turn around to the area behind the wall.  
13 I hit the alarm, and right after that, I went to go get  
14 spare air as part of our emergency protocol to activate  
15 the alarm, get air right away and let our net reel and  
16 eventually move the whale?

17 Q. Prior to working with Tilikum on the  
18 nontactile team, had you read the SOP's that are  
19 specific to Tilikum?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Were you familiar with those SOP's?

22 A. At the time, yes.

23 MS. GUNNIN: One moment, Judge. (Pause)

24 That's all the questions I have, Your Honor.

25 JUDGE WELSCH: Can you give me some sense of the

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