

TURNER LEIGHTS OF TORNETS

His career-high 55 points lead Sixers to 98-90 win in playoff opener. **Sports.**



MONDAY
APRIL 21, 2003

The Philadelphia Inquirer

City & Suburbs Edition D

WWW.PHILLY.COM

174

REGION



As scary as the real thing

This is a trophy of a 274-pound shark caught off South Jersey, but because of the work of a U. Darby taxidermist, you might think twice about it. **B1.**

How to reduce risks of toxic disaster

Especially since 9/11, firms have pursued safer technology on their own. Now there is debate over requiring improvements.

Second of two parts

By Adam Fifield
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Concerned about the possibility of a catastrophic accident involving highly toxic chlorine, the Philadelphia Water Department began switching to a safer chemical at its plants more than five years ago.

Sept. 11 and the threat of a terrorist attack involving the nation's industrial facilities gave the department's process new urgency.

In the Shadow of Danger

The Chemical Plant Peril

In a "worst-case scenario" at its Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant in Bridesburg — the largest wastewater-treatment plant in Philadelphia — a plume of poisonous chlorine gas could endanger 1.5 million people from South Jersey to Montgomery County, according to the department's risk-manage-

ment plan filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1999.

"In the mid-'90s we started to see sodium hypochlorite is a much safer alternative to chlorine gas," said David W. Water Department's deputy commissioner for environmental policy and planning said Sept. 11 "strengthened our commitment to make the conversion."

Since the idea of "inherently safer technology" emerged in the 1970s, m

See **SAFER** on A7