

**ACTIVITY:** Surfing

**CASE:** GSAF 2000.09.12

**DATE:** Tuesday September 12, 2000

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at Sebastian Inlet, Indian River County, Florida, USA.

**NAME:** Brenda Fried

**DESCRIPTION:** She was wearing a dark blue bathing suit top and red shorts.

**SURFBOARD:** The surfboard was white.



### BACKGROUND

**WEATHER:** The sky was sunny.

**MOON PHASE:** Waxing Gibbous, 97% of the moon's visible disk was illuminated. Full Moon, September 14, 2000.

**SEA CONDITIONS:** "Waves were great that day," said the surfer, "but there wasn't much visibility."

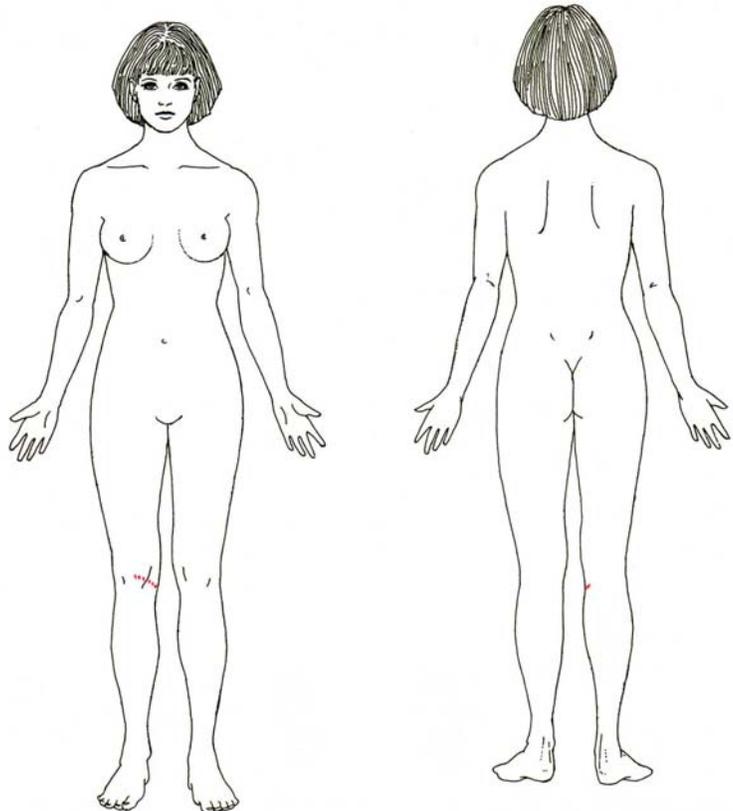
**ENVIRONMENT:** "There were tons of baitfish everywhere," according to Fried.

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** Ten feet

**NARRATIVE:** The surfer caught a wave inside and came to the beach, got off her board and started to head back out. "I was holding my board to the side and jumping through the first few waves when I felt an intense quick pinch on my knee," said the surfer. "[The shark's] jaws clamped down on both sides of leg. Then it just let go."

**INJURY:** "I had puncture wounds from my kneecap to the inside of my leg," she said "It was swollen and painful a few hours later."

**TREATMENT:** When the surfer got out of the water, she saw that her leg was bleeding. "I was sort of in disbelief because it had happened so fast," said Fried. "Kevin Welsh, a professional photographer for Surfing magazine, took a picture of me as I walked up the beach and headed to the concession stand to ask for a first aid kit ... I didn't even go to the hospital ... I just poured some peroxide on it and went home ... I took one day off and was back in the water – it hurt though. The following day I left for California to attend Yoga



school for three months. All that stretching healed my knee from the inside out.”

**COMMENT:** “I think it was a case of mistaken identity; I was in the way of a shark feeding,” says Fried. “I once caught a shark fishing and let it go; a shark caught me and let me go. We’re even.”

**SPECIES INVOLVED:** Unknown

**SOURCE:** Shark Survivor, Inc.