

ACTIVITY: Surfing

CASE: [GSAF 1995.08.26.a](#)

DATE: Saturday August 26, 1995

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean at New Smyrna Beach, 150 yards south Ponce de Leon Inlet, Volusia County, Florida, USA.

29.1°N, 81°W

NAME: Dwight Irvin

DESCRIPTION: He is an 18-year-old male from Casselberry.

BACKGROUND

MOON PHASE: New Moon

ENVIRONMENT: The inlet is a feeding ground for juvenile sharks.

DEPTH OF WATER: "Six to eight inches" according to the Orlando Sentinel.

TIME: 14h15

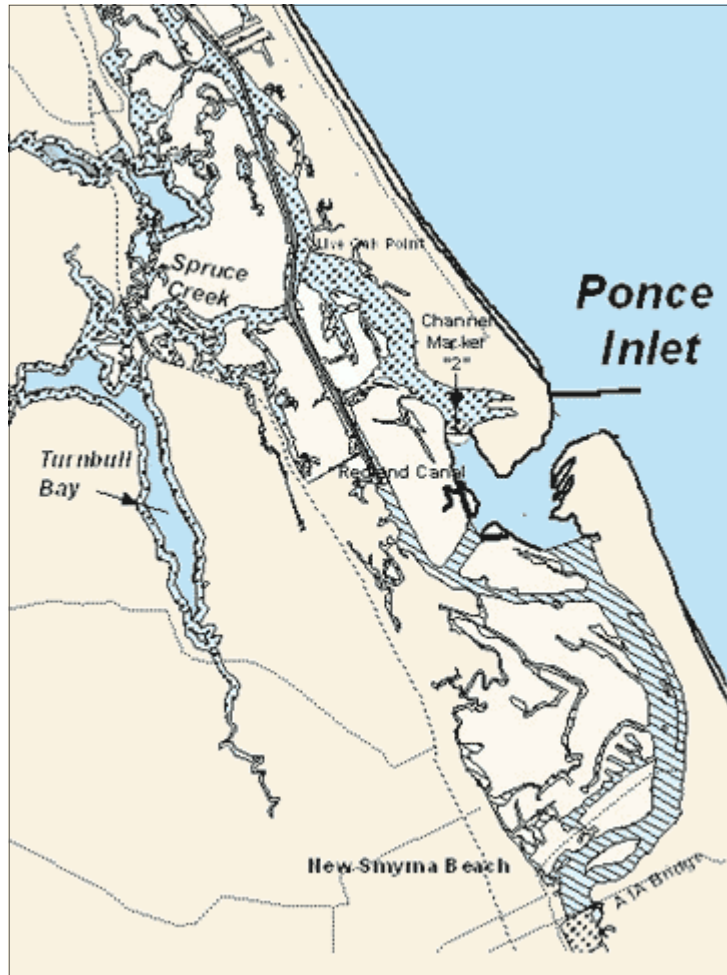
NARRATIVE:

INJURY: He sustained a puncture wound to his right pinky finger.

FIRST AID / TREATMENT: "It was very minor," said Volusia County lifeguard Captain Joe Wooden. "We wrapped it up and sent him on his way."

SPECIES INVOLVED: Not identified.

SOURCE: Cory Lancaster, Orlando Sentinel, August 27, 1995, page B5



**SHARK NIPS SURFER'S FINGER IN VOLUSIA THE COUNTY'S 13TH REPORTED
ATTACK BY SHARKS - A RECORD - OCCURRED NEAR PONCE INLET, A POPULAR SHARK
FEEDING AREA**

An 18-year-old surfer from Casselberry was bitten by a small shark near Ponce Inlet on Saturday, bringing to 13 the number of attacks this year off Volusia County beaches.

Dwight Irvin was in 6 to 8 inches of water about 2:15 p.m.

Saturday when a small shark clamped down on his right pinky finger.

The puncture wound was treated by lifeguards on the beach, said Volusia County lifeguard Capt. Joe Wooden.

"It was very minor," Wooden said. "We wrapped it up and sent him on his way."

The bite occurred 150 yards south of the inlet, off New Smyrna Beach. All but two of this year's shark attacks have happened around the inlet, a popular feeding ground for baby sharks.

The 13 bites within a year are a record for Volusia.

Shark experts say more surfers are in the water because of rough waves and that reduces visibility in the water for hungry sharks.

SOURCE: Cory Lancaster, Orlando Sentinel, August 27, 1995, page B55