

**ACTIVITY:** Surfing

**CASE:** GSAF 1995.09.19

**DATE:** Tuesday September 19, 1995

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in Matanzas Bay Inlet, St. Johns, County, Florida, USA.

**NAME:** Gavin Korth

**DESCRIPTION:** He is a 19-year-old male from Gainesville, Florida.

**BACKGROUND**

**MOON PHASE:** Third Quarter, September 16, 1995

**DEPTH OF WATER AT INCIDENT SITE:** Waist-deep

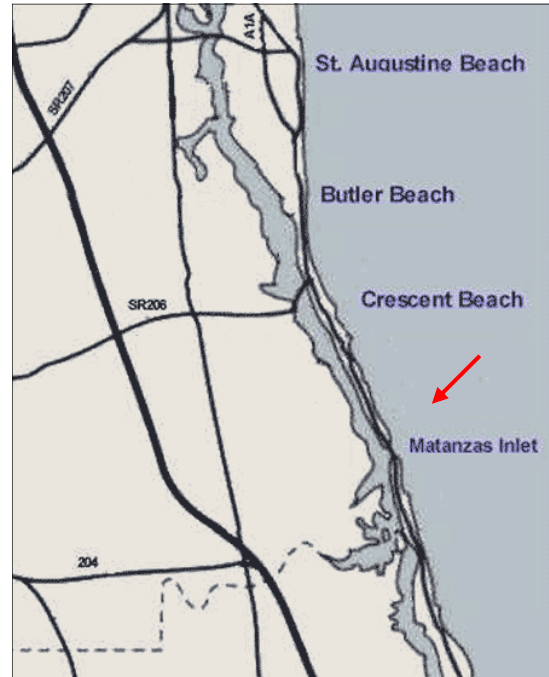
**NARRATIVE:** Gavin Korth was paddling out to surf when the incident took place. "He felt a tug and he pulled his hand out and saw all this blood," said Dr. James Grimes. "He said he saw the shark and thought it was around six feet in length, but mostly he was trying to get out of there."

**INJURY:** The surfer was bitten on the left arm and hand.

**TREATMENT:** Dr. James Grimes repaired Korth's torn muscles, tendons and nerves.

**SPECIES INVOLVED:** Not identified. The surfer thought the shark was about six feet in length.

**SOURCE:** Orlando Sentinel, September 20, 1995, page C3



**NEW SMYRNA BEACH –** Florida recorded its 24th shark attack of the year Tuesday for the highest number of victims ever in a state that is the shark attack capital of the world.

The latest victim was Gavin Korth, 19, of Gainesville. He was bit on the left arm and hand in waist-high water Tuesday as he paddled out to surf at Matanzas Bay Inlet in St. John's County.

"He felt a tug and he pulled his hand out and saw all this blood," said Dr. James Grimes, who repaired Korth's torn muscles, tendons and nerves. "He saw the shark and thought it was around 6 feet, but mostly he was trying to get out of there."