



*A shoal of mullet*

Image by Michael Patrick O'Neill

**ACTIVITY:** Surfing

**CASE:** [GSAF 1998.09.22](#)

**DATE:** Tuesday September 22, 1998

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Atlantic Ocean near the 2700 block of North Ocean Beach, New Smyrna Beach, Volusia County, Florida, USA.

*29.0°N, 81.0°W*

**NAME:** Jade Blackstock

**DESCRIPTION:** An 18-year-old male from Longwood.

#### **BACKGROUND**

**MOON PHASE:** Waxing Crescent, 3% of the Moon's visible disk illuminated. New Moon, September 21, 1998.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Immediately before the surfer was bitten, he encountered a shoal of mullet. When pursued by predators, such as sharks, a shoal of mullet will often vault across the surface.

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** 200 yards

**TIME:** 15h35

**NARRATIVE:** Jade Blackstock had just "duck dived" through a wave when he was bitten.

**INJURY:** The surfer's left arm was bitten. He sustained 20 to 30 lacerations, each about a quarter-inch in length, from just above the elbow to midway down the forearm.

**FIRST AID / TREATMENT:** Volusia County Beach Safety EMS arrived on the scene and found the surfer standing with a T-shirt wrapped around his left arm. The injury was dressed and bandaged, and the surfer was transported to hospital for treatment.

**SPECIES INVOLVED:** Not identified

**SOURCES:** Volusia County Beach Safety EMS Report

**CASE INVESTIGATOR:** Captain Scott Petersohn, Volusia County Beach Patrol & GSAF

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