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Little yappers attack officer

LILLIPUTIAN PACK MAD ABOUT AWAKENING

By Lisa Fernandez
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Ferocious pit bulls they weren't.

But it couldn't have been pleasant for a Fremont police officer whose body parts were chomped on by a pack of nippy Chihuahuas, angry that police woke them from an early morning sleep and entered their master's home in a middle-class suburban neighborhood.

The officers were bringing home a 17-year-old boy, who was spotted in a car Wednesday about 3 a.m. without a driver's license. When officers Paul Mourgos and Paul Rush arrived and opened the door, five itty-bitty dogs ``viciously attacked'' officer Rush, according to a Fremont police report.

Of course, the dogs couldn't reach anything higher than Rush's ankles, and the officer was treated and released from the hospital with only minor gashes, police said.

Rush is the third Fremont officer in two months bitten by a dog. Contacted Friday on his day off, Rush declined to comment about the incident. The case was forwarded to the city's animal-control services, which was closed Friday.

The name of the teen was not released because he is a juvenile and a Mercury News check of the neighborhood yielded only one Chihuahua owner, Lucas Valasquez, 18. But he said neither he nor his three brothers were the ones involved in that case. He also said that as far as he knows, his dog, ``Casper'' is the only Chihuahua on the street.

The dog attack was the first of two bizarre incidents that happened in Fremont in the wee hours of the same morning.

Two hours earlier at about 1:15 a.m., a mother and daughter were sleeping at their Niles neighborhood home when someone was able to unhook a kitchen window screen, slide open the glass and get inside, according to a police report.

The mother, whose name was not released and whose husband is traveling in India, awoke to find a man typing on a computer in an upstairs bedroom. She quickly went into the master bedroom to call police, and the man fled without taking anything or hurting anyone. When the woman went to check what the mystery man was doing, she noticed ``erotic Indian art'' left on her computer as a screen-saver.

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