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Wild Animal Attacks; Residents Worry

POSTED: 9:36 pm CDT June 19, 2006

UPDATED: 8:35 am CDT June 20, 2006

OMAHA, Neb. -- Something's lurking in the Tiburon golf course neighborhood. Four times since November, a wild animal has reportedly injured or carried away a family pet.

The latest attack happened Thursday. A neighbor was in the back yard with her three dogs, including a small maltese. Tina Kudrna said the neighbor saw a large animal.

"At first what she thought was a big dog. It had big pointed ears. It had her one dog by the neck," said Tina Kudrna. The maltese was carried away, and hasn't been found since.

Two weeks ago, homeowner Amy Dearing's dog, Mac, disappeared from the yard. They went looking for him, and found him badly injured. She described his life threatening injuries that required blood transfusions to save him.

She said he was bloody around the neck, with severe lacerations and bite marks along his chest.

Animal control officers with the Douglas County Humane Society think the attacks may be the work of a wild dog or a coyote. They've searched the area four different times and have no definite answers.

They're warning Tiburon residents to keep their small dogs close to home during the evening hours and to take extra precautions when children are playing outside

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