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**March 20, 2006**

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## LOCAL

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### Dog-bite victim recovering in Waterbury

*Monday, March 20, 2006*

BY GENNADY SHEYNER

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"We can't be as generous as he was brave," said her boyfriend, John Norris, 43, who was with her at the hospital Sunday.

Javier and Annette Soto, of 23 Welles St., still don't know how Jarrell, the 2-year old American bulldog they were dog-sitting, got loose from their back yard. The dog was put to sleep last week.

"We are very sorry about what happened," said Annette Soto, 28. "We would never do anything to harm anyone. It was an unfortunate accident."

While Sciortino still needs occasional pain medication to counter the burning sensation in her right thigh, she no longer needs to take it every three hours, as she did during her first week at the hospital. She is already looking forward to getting back to her job as a home health aide for Prospect-based Extra Hand Inc., where she worked for the past 13 years.

And she is confident that once she gets back to work, she won't allow herself to be blind-sided again.

"That's one thing I learned: Look outside your door before you run out of the house," she said.

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