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# The Daily Record

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Monday, December 24, 2007

## Dog Pack Drags Off 12-Year-Old

• **13-year-old brother beats dogs off with shoe.**

### Tom Woerner

Harnett County News Editor

Monday, December 24, 2007

Two children are recovering from injuries after they were attacked Thursday near their western Harnett County home by a pack of dogs.

Ruth Davis said her niece, who is 12, and nephew, 13, were playing outside their home on Rosser Pittman Road when the attacks occurred. They saw a truck on a side road, Ms. Davis said, and shortly after that were approached by three dogs.

The children were later identified as Melissa Rollins and Kevin Rollins, who are brother and sister.

Ms. Davis said one of the dogs grabbed Melissa and attempted to carry her into a wooded area. Kevin was eventually able to get the dog off the girl by hitting it with a shoe.

Melissa, who has undergone open heart surgery for heart problems in the past, suffered wounds to several parts of her body. She has stitches in her head and legs, her aunt said.

She was first taken to Central Carolina Hospital in Sanford before being transported to UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill. She was released from the hospital Sunday.

Kevin suffered minor cuts and scratches.

### Dogs Shot

The entire staff of the Harnett County Animal Control office responded to the scene and spent several hours looking for the dogs Thursday night. They set traps before leaving the scene and found one adult dog and one puppy in the traps Friday morning. Two additional puppies were caught later Friday.

Animal control officials saw more dogs when they arrived on the scene and had to take drastic measures.

"We had to shoot three dogs because they were so aggressive," Animal Control Supervisor Tino Medina said. "We don't like to do that, but sometimes we have to."

Two dogs caught in the trap were euthanized because they are not suitable for adoption.

"They have never been around people so we can't put them up for adoption," Mr. Medina said. "When they see people they just scatter and don't want to let you touch them."

Mr. Medina said his work is not done at the attack scene. Traps were set over the weekend, he said, because officials believed there are two (German) shepherds still out there. One dog was captured over the weekend.

### Irresponsible

Ms. Davis said she thinks the dogs were dropped off and thinks their owners were irresponsible.

"If people don't want their dogs they should take them to the pound," she said.

Mr. Medina said he doesn't believe the animals were abandoned by the person in the truck.

"The neighbors say they have had problems with the dogs attacking their farm animals, so we think they have been there awhile," Mr. Medina said. "We have to continue to find out what the problem is."

He said dogs that live in the wild can be dangerous.

"They develop a pack mentality when they are wild like that and that makes them very aggressive," Mr. Medina said. "The normal dog mentality is gone - they are acting like a pack of wolves."

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