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Pregnant 16-year-old OK after dog bite

Josh Boatwright

A 16-year-old girl who is six months pregnant did not suffer any serious injuries to herself or her baby after being bitten on the stomach by a hunting dog Saturday.

Angela Wilson said her teenage daughter was walking the family's Shih Tzu near their home on Winchester Drive Saturday night when they encountered a neighbor walking three large hunting dogs.

The girl picked up the Shih Tzu, but the dogs overpowered their owner, got loose and rushed toward the small animal.

"The dogs had tried to get to our little Shih Tzu and got a hold of it and when it did, it got a hold of my daughter and dragged her down," Wilson said.

The dogs' owner and the girl's boyfriend quickly fought the dogs off and regained control of them.

Wilson said her daughter had a bite mark on her stomach and scratches, but doctors said she and her baby had not been harmed.

The Shih Tzu received a few scratches in the scuffle, but no serious injuries, Wilson said.

The dog that bit the girl was quarantined by the Haywood County Sheriff's Office for 10 days, though Wilson said the owner had proof of its rabies vaccinations.

Wilson said she has had to pick up her Shih Tzu during walks in the past to protect it from the same dogs.

She said the incident was an accident and does not think the dog should be put down.

"He [the owner] needs to do something different with the dogs so this doesn't happen again, maybe walk one at a time instead of all three at a time," she said.

Wilson said her daughter noticed her baby moving for the first time after visiting the hospital for the bite.

"After she came home from the hospital the baby started moving like crazy," Wilson said.
