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## Dog bites Abilene woman in face

Daralyn Schoenewald [schoenewaldd@reporternews.com](mailto:schoenewaldd@reporternews.com) / 325-676-6765  
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An Abilene woman was taken to the hospital after being bitten in the face Saturday afternoon by an unknown breed of dog, police said.

The dog bit Victoria Hindman on the cheek, leaving a four- to five-inch gash, said Kimberly Whitley, a friend of Hindman's.

According to police, the details of the attack were unclear because Hindman could not talk to officers at the scene, possibly because of her injury.

She may also have been in shock, said Abilene Police Officer Coby Wright.

Wright said paramedics told him that Hindman would likely need at least four stitches to close the gash on her cheek.

Whitley brought her children to Hindman's home in the 700 block of Chestnut Street because one of Hindman's dogs had just had puppies. Police said they do not believe either of Hindman's dogs were responsible for the dog bite because both were secured on chains in the front of her home.

Children in the area, including Whitley's children, identified a neighbor's dog, possibly a wolf mix, as the attacker. But police questioned the animals' owner, who said they had been securely tied up and wouldn't have attacked unless Hindman had entered his yard.

It's possible the dog that bit Hindman was a stray, Wright said. Police and an animal control officer continued to search for some time the area around Hindman's home for the dog, Wright said.

Hindman was being treated at Abilene Regional Medical Center, where she was still in the emergency room around 4 p.m. Her condition was not immediately available.



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