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**Couple Say Child Attacked By Vicious Animal**  
By TOM WOERNER

For the Record

A Bunnlevel couple say they want the owners of a dog that injured their small child to pay for medical expenses. The couple said that the medical bills continue to increase after what they say was a savage attack.

Adam Embrey and Monica Napier said their two-year-old son Breyton was attempting to hug a dog owned by a neighbor when the attack occurred. Mr. Embrey was working on a car at the home in western Harnett County and had the child with him. He said the dog got out of the house before the accident occurred.

Ms. Napier said the dog bit the child's face when Breyton tried to hug it and held on for several seconds.

"I tried to yell at Breyton to leave the dog alone, but it was to late," Ms. Napier said.

She said she did not see her son hit the dog, pull its hair or do anything else that might have caused the dog to want to attack.

Ms. Napier said she wants the dog's owner to take some of the responsibility for the attack.

The attack left wounds on the child's face. Scars remain in several places. He was transferred to Cape Fear Valley Medical Center immediately following the attacks, where he continues to get treatment. That may include plastic surgery in the future to correct damage to his nose. The treatments include expensive medications which Ms. Napier said she can't afford.

"We just want her to help because we don't have any way to pay for the treatment of our baby," Ms. Napier said.

Both Mr. Embrey and Ms. Napier are unemployed.

"All we want is for the owner to help pay for expenses and they won't even do that," Mr. Embrey said. Animal Control Supervisor Tino Medina said the dog, a German shepherd mix, will be quarantined for 10 days —from the time of the attack to make sure it does not have rabies. There have been no indications to this point that the dog has rabies.

He said he questioned how serious the injury was and doesn't think there is a need to look into the matter further.

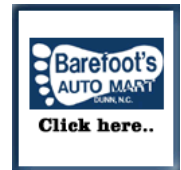
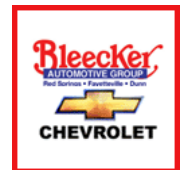
"It looked like it was just a bad scratch to me, like the child might have fallen down" Mr. Medina said. "There doesn't appear to be a need for further investigation."

In a report given to Ms. Napier, filed with Mr. Medina's office, the owner of the dog says the animal has not attacked anyone in the past.

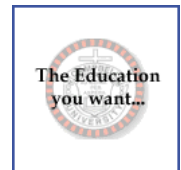
There was no answer Thursday and Friday at the phone number listed for the owner.



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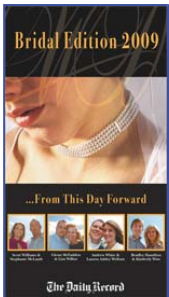
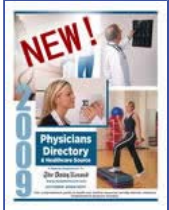
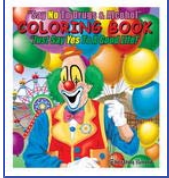
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Breyton is held by mother, Monica Napier, and is still being treated for the injuries to his nose by a shepard mix dog.  
Daily Record Photo/Tom Woerner

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