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## Barrett: Teen not bitten by pit bull

PHIL ROONEY , Staff Writer

A teenager who was bitten by a dog Saturday was not attacked by a pit bull.

Galen Barrett, chief animal control officer for Council Bluffs, said Laura Rocha was bitten by a Laborador-mix dog at about 5:30 p.m. as she walked in the 100 block of South Ninth Street.

Rocha, 17, received a small laceration on her left buttock, Barrett said.

The dog may have some pit bull in it, but the city's new pit bull ordinance doesn't apply unless that is the animal's primary breed, Barrett said. That means he can't pursue the owners under the city's new pit bull ordinance.

"This incident is being handled as a typical bite incident would be handled," Barrett said.

The dog has been impounded and the owners have been cited. The dog's rabies vaccinations are current so there should be no concern about the girl having to undergo a series of rabies shots, he said.

The city's pit bull ordinance was reinstated last week after a judge had issued a temporary restraining order earlier this month to prevent it from going into effect.

Saturday's incident doesn't mean that that city's pit bull ordinance won't work, Barrett said.

"This ordinance has been in effect a whole four days," he said. "The ordinance will work."

"This is not a quick fix thing," Barrett said.

Rocha could not immediately be reached this morning for comment on the incident.

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