

SD Zoo's online Panda Cam crashes due to overload

August 8 2009



This image provided by the San Diego Zoo shows a new panda birth, upper right, captured Wednesday Aug. 5, 2009 via a closed-circuit camera in the birthing den in the zoo in San Diego. It was the fifth birth for mother, Bai Yun. The sex of the mostly hairless, pink newborn, which is about the size of a stick of butter, will not be known for some time, and it will be approximately one month before the iconic black-and-white coloration of a giant panda becomes visible. (AP Photo/San Diego Zoo, Ken Bohn)

(AP) -- The San Diego Zoo's pandas have become such cyber-stars that their Panda Cam got caught in a popularity crunch.

The zoo says the online camera feed, which monitors 300-pound mom Bai Yun and her 4-ounce, 1-day-old cub, crashed Thursday morning because of increased Internet traffic. The zoo's blogs went down about

the same time.

Zoo spokeswoman Jenny Mehlow said the cam was down for about 30 minutes. The blogs were down until Friday evening.

Bai Yun gave birth to the cub Wednesday. Video posted on the zoo blog shows the moment of birth with the tiny cub emerging. Seconds later, Bai Yun picks up the squealing cub, hunches over and begins nursing.

It's her fifth cub and only the 14th panda in the United States.

On the Net:

San Diego Zoo, <http://www.sandiegozoo.org>

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