

TECHNOLOGY

Web links Marine, new baby stateside

From Iraq, he sees daughter in Mich.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich. — A U.S. Marine in Iraq was able to view doctors displaying his newborn daughter via the Internet soon after her birth yesterday.

Sgt. Peter Boucher, watching on a Webcast from Al Asad, about 110 miles west of Baghdad, saw doctors hold up Lilian Grace just after she was born in Mount Clemens General Hospital in suburban Detroit.

Sergeant Boucher's wife, Stacy, delivered the 20-inch, 7-pound, 7-ounce girl at 4:44



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Above, Stacy Boucher holds newborn daughter Lilian Grace in Mount Clemens, Mich., as her husband, Marine Sgt. Peter Boucher, at right, watches on the Web in Al Asad, Iraq.

p.m. Next to her bed was a camera mounted on a tripod that was hooked up to a laptop. In the hours before Lilian Grace's arrival, Peter Boucher called about every 30 minutes to speak with his wife.

He was on the phone when doctors told him his daughter was about to be born.

He rushed to the Webcast, which was set up away from the phone, just in time to see them hold up Lilian Grace for the first time.

"I love that technology is help-

ing me share this moment with my husband," Stacy Boucher said before the birth. She last saw her husband about six months ago. "It's hard being away. You try to stay as close as you can."

Stacy Boucher was surrounded by about a half-dozen family and friends in her hospital room, including at least two other women whose husbands are in Peter Boucher's unit.

"I've been pretty stressed though, it's hard," Peter Boucher said prior to the birth. "We've both been kind of lonely."



The Boucher family lives in the Macomb County community of Clinton Township. Stacy Boucher said her husband isn't expected return to the United States and see his family in person until Sept. 30, but he said yesterday that he hoped to be back by late August or early September.

The idea for the Webcast came from Stacy Boucher's labor and delivery coach, who had heard about a long-distance birth being watched between Michigan and Florida.

Koger

Continued from Page 1

living room and then shot three more times in an upstairs bedroom. He died during surgery in St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center.

Koger was arrested early the next day and confessed to detectives that he shot at Mr. Johns several times with a 357-caliber revolver that Groom provided, but Koger said he didn't think he hit him.

Groom, 25, was indicted for aggravated murder with death-penalty specifications, but a jury found him guilty of a lesser charge of murder in 2000. He was sentenced to 18 years to life in prison.

This was the second time Koger has been on trial for the murder of Mr. Johns.

He was found guilty of aggravated murder and aggravated

robbery in 1999 when he chose to be tried before Judge William Skow.

He was sentenced to 33 years to life in prison. Koger, then 16 years old, was indicted with death-penalty specifications, but was not subject to execution because he was a juvenile.

However, the Ohio 6th District Court of Appeals reversed the conviction, ruling that Judge Skow failed to follow capital-crime procedures when he allowed Koger to waive his right to a trial by either a jury or a three-judge panel. The decision was upheld by the Ohio Supreme Court.

Mark Geudtner and Merle Dech, attorneys who represent Koger, would not comment about the jury verdicts last night.

Koger testified during the trial that his brother and Mr. Johns got into an argument, which turned into a struggle after he went outside. He said he heard

a shot and went back inside to check on his brother.

Koger testified that he picked up a handgun from the floor of the upstairs bedroom and fired as Groom and Mr. Johns were wrestling in the unit room, and that he didn't intentionally aim to kill the victim.

Groom testified they had gone to the house to buy drugs, but the deal went awry after Groom gave the victim \$60 only to learn Mr. Johns didn't have any marijuana and would have to leave the house to get it.

He said he pulled a gun, demanded his money back, and a struggle ensued when the victim reached for the gun, which fired once. He said he followed the victim upstairs, they struggled on the floor of the bedroom, and that he then heard the gunfire from Koger shooting a gun.

Earlier yesterday during closing arguments, Mr. Lingo said the drug-deal-gone-bad was a lie fabricated by the defendant.

He asked jurors to recall the testimony of witnesses who said money wasn't exchanged between the victim and Groom as Koger claimed when he testified.

Mr. Lingo reminded the panel of the testimony of witnesses who were in the home who said Groom pulled a gun, shouted that nobody was going anywhere, and told his brother to watch the door.

Mr. Lingo said the defendant agreed to participate in a plan hatched by Groom to take the victim's marijuana and money, a robbery they thought would produce a big hit. "It was supposed to be a quick robbery — get in and get out," he said.

Mr. Geudtner told the jury in closing arguments that Koger wasn't pointing his gun with the intention of killing Mr. Johns, but instead just wanted to get his brother free from the struggle with the victim.

"He is not guilty of aggravated murder, but he might be guilty of a lesser form of homicide," he said.

Contact Mark Reiter at: markreiter@theblade.com or 419-213-2134.

CLASS OF 2005 HIGH SCHOOL MEAP RESULTS

The above represents the percentage of High School seniors who met or exceeded the Michigan state standard on tests in six subjects. "ELA" stands for English Language Arts.

	ELA	Math	Reading	Science	Writing	Social Studies
Monroe County						
Airport Senior High School	69.9	56.7	79.9	64	56.5	32.1
Bedford Senior High School	61.3	63.4	79.8	63	47.4	36.6
Dundee Community High School	63.4	61.7	73.1	62.2	55.5	31.9
Ida High School	74.4	56	77.4	66.9	72.8	36.9
Jefferson High School	76.4	55.6	86.9	55.2	65.4	34.4
Mason Senior High School	63.5	59.3	75.2	52.5	57.6	41
Monroe High School	69.9	54	79.8	55.3	54.3	28.6
Summerfield High School	68.8	72.9	83.4	60.5	60.4	25
Whiteford High School	61.2	66.6	69.4	50	62.5	23.6
Lenawee County						
Addison High School	76.2	68.2	75.8	67.2	68.7	21.2
Adrian High School	70.9	58.2	78	62.7	67.5	38.8
Blissfield High School	73.6	56.6	85.9	65	61.4	34.9
Britton-Macon Area School	76.5	79.5	93.3	69.4	71.7	30.6
Deerfield Public Schools	75.8	54.5	87.8	57.5	69.7	36.4
Madison High School	55.4	40.6	64.1	40	50	10.9
Morenci Area High School	75.4	57.4	85	71.7	62.3	38.3
North Adams High School	60	63.6	83.7	63.6	41.8	18.2
Onsted Community	67.3	66.9	81	65.6	63.3	34.6
Sand Creek High School	73.5	63.2	86.5	63.2	63.3	28.4
Tecumseh High School	70.5	58.2	81.6	60.1	55.7	35.5
Hillsdale County						
Camden-Frontier High School	59.5	47.6	73.8	66.7	38.1	23.8
Hillsdale High School	71.2	52.5	80.7	62.3	63.6	30
Hudson Area High School	56.7	57.3	69.7	48.9	47.1	14

SOURCE: Michigan Department of Education

THE BLADE

Tests

Continued from Page 1

highest percentage of students who met or exceeded the state standards in all six subjects with 64.1 percent, while 55.6 percent of Whiteford graduating seniors were in that designation.

In Lenawee County, Britton-Macon High School had an aver-

age of 70.2 percent of its seniors meet or exceed the state standard in all six categories, while Madison High School came in the lowest at 43.5 percent.

Bedford Superintendent Jon White, whose high school scored in about the middle of the pack in Monroe County, said he and other district officials were still trying to verify the information released yesterday by the state. Still, he said educators watch the MEAP results closely, even in the summer.

"We're forced to watch them very closely because so much emphasis is being placed on MEAP results that all of the other good things that schools do get lost in the shuffle," Mr. White said. "What's confusing about the high school scores is that kids can take these tests as sophomores, juniors, and seniors, and you don't get the information back until after these kids have graduated."

Craig Haugen, who started his second year as superintendent of Whiteford Agricultural Schools yesterday, said the high school MEAP results provided by the state aren't as detailed as those for younger grade levels, but they are still helpful.

"The challenge with the MEAP scores is that, oftentimes, it's a moving target where the tests will change or the format of the tests will change," Mr. Haugen said.

"What's really challenging at the high school level is that they don't provide [the kind of detailed analysis] that they do at the elementary and middle school level, so districts have a more challenging time trying to address their specific weaknesses to improve student achievement."

Information from the Associated Press was used in this report.

Contact Larry P. Vellequette at: lvellequette@theblade.com or 419-724-6091.

18-month-old girl drowns in pond by Putnam Co. home

KALIDA, Ohio — An 18-month-old girl apparently drowned yesterday in an ornamental fish pond near her house in Putnam County near here, the sheriff's office said.

The girl, whose name was being withheld, was pronounced dead at 1:34 p.m. in St. Rita's Putnam County Ambulatory Care Center, Glandorf, Ohio, deputies said.

The girl was not breathing and had no pulse when her mother found her in the pond about 12:35 p.m., deputies said.

The child gained access to the pond, which was located 15 feet from the house, through a sliding screen door in a bedroom, where she was playing with her sister, they said.

1-HOUR PIT STOP TIRE SERVICE. GUARANTEED.

We honor ALL competitor coupons

TIRE SAVINGS \$20 On ANY 4 tires	A/C SERVICE \$29.98 On ANY Air Conditioning Service	MECHANICAL 25% OFF ANY Mechanical Repair	OIL CHANGE \$14.98 with Tire Rotation*
---	--	---	---

*Most cars + tax + environmental fee. NO OTHER DISCOUNTS APPLY. EXPIRES 7/3/05

1-Hour Pit Stop Tire Service. Guaranteed.

TIREMAN

AUTO SERVICE CENTERS

Find More Coupons @ thetireman.com

Convenient! Where You Live, and Where You Work!

Maumee	532 Illinois Ave	(419) 893-7242
Perrysburg	25998 N Dixie Hwy	(419) 873-0911
Woodville	3725 Williston Rd	(419) 698-1863
Sylvania	5832 Monroe St	(419) 882-8984
West Toledo	2779 W Central	(419) 479-7010
North Towne	222 W Alexis	(419) 476-7121
South Toledo	750 S Reynolds	(419) 535-3033
Franklin Park	5022 Monroe St	(419) 475-4671
Holland	7171 Orchard Centre	(419) 861-1919
Bowling Green	999 S Main St	(419) 352-5788
Monroe, Michigan	1986 N Telegraph	(600) 498-6009
Truck & Farm Ctr	532 Illinois Ave	(419) 891-7973

QUALITY YOU'VE COME TO EXPECT

<p>Barbecue Grills Starting at: \$99.99</p> <p>Assembled & Ready to Go Ask about our FREE Delivery Parts for ALL Major Grills.</p>	<p>Picnic TABLES 3 styles to choose from!</p> <p>Made from Plastic. More durable than wood!</p>
--	--

COAL & WOODBURNER **SHOPPE**
OPEN EVERY DAY 1639 W. ALEXIS 419-476-2257

4th of July Celebration

Sweet Corn

Home Grown Tomatoes & Blueberries
Ice Cold Watermelons

Home Grown Cucumbers	39¢ ea.
Home Grown Head Lettuce	99¢ ea.
Home Grown Cauliflower	\$1.79 hd.

Peas • Greens • Radishes • Green Onions • Beans
Red and Black Raspberries

TOM STRAIN & SONS
& Daughter Too

PLANTS & PRODUCE

5105 Hill Ave. • Toledo, OH 43615 • (419) 531-8183

July Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9-7 Sun. 10-3
OPEN July 4th 10-3

American Home Fitness Summer Elliptical Sale.

Don't let the heat keep you from running— come to Michigan's premier exercise equipment store and save on the area's biggest selection of ellipticals.

PRECOR
move beyond

Every elliptical is on sale, starting at just \$599

\$400-\$800 Off* Precor ellipticals, #1 choice of health clubs!

Special savings on treadmills & home gyms!

There's no reason to go anywhere else.

www.americanhomefitness.com

Sylvania 419-885-3900
5577 Monroe St. (East of US-23, between Corey & Whiteford)
12 locations throughout Michigan

*Offer valid through 7-10-05. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other promotional offer.

WHERE DO YOU GO TO GET MORE

For the past two years, UT has awarded more than 5,600 scholarships (\$13 million) to admitted students. For fall 2005 scholarship information, visit www.utoledo.edu.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS. HIGH STANDARDS. TOP PERFORMERS.

419.530.8700 / 800.STOLEDO