



Seattle, Washington
 Wednesday September 20, 2006 3:05 p.m. Mountain Standard Time

Welcome, Visitor! Sign In/Become a registered member
 Customize | Make this your home page | E-mail newsletters | MySpecialsDirect

Search

- Home**
- Local News**
- Weather**
- Traffic**
- Video on Demand**
- Sports**
- HealthLink**
- Biz/Tech
- U.S. News
- World News
- Entertainment
- Travel/Outdoors
- Lifestyles
- Blogger KING

- On Air**
- Evening Magazine
- NW Backroads
- Up Front
- Sports Blitz
- Garden w/Ciscoe
- KONG TV
- TV Schedule
- Newslinks

- Services**
- Newsletters
- Calendar
- Contests
- Pix
- Slide Shows
- Forums
- Wireless
- Podcasts
- RSS Feeds
- Desktop News
- Lotteries
- Advertising Info.
- About Us



| |

MLB pitcher Curt Schilling's wife battles cancer in her 30s Video

01:54 PM PDT on Thursday, June 15, 2006

By JEAN ENERSEN / KING 5 News

In his 17 Major League Baseball seasons, future hall of fame pitcher Curt Schilling has done battle with hundreds of hitters. His winning ways are something the Seattle Mariners know all too well. But the biggest battle in the Schilling household was waged by Curt's wife, Shonda.

"I've always said we have the money, fame, what everyone thought was a good life ... but without health you don't have anything," said Curt.

Several years ago, when Curt was on his way to winning the world series as an Arizona Diamondback, a doctor discovered something on Shonda's back that looked suspicious.

"When he was listening to my heart he saw the spot and he said, 'I don't like it' and I said, 'It's not changing' and he said, 'You're in Arizona now and it's a problem,'" she said.

Shonda is the first to admit she's been a



KING

Advertising

marketplace



- ▶ Buy a car
- ▶ Sell a car



Find Your Dentist

other services

- ▶ TicketCenter
- ▶ DatingCenter
- ▶ Place an ad
- ▶ Add an event

Shonda Schilling has undergone five surgeries.

sun-worshipper most of her life.

"Every Spring Training I was at the pool ... again ... tired of being cooped up ... thought I needed that color to make me feel better," she said. "I didn't know the magnitude of what would happen."

And she was by no means prepared for what followed the biopsy.

"He told me that he'd call me within seven days and within one day, he called me to tell me I had malignant melanoma," she said.

Since her diagnosis, Shonda has undergone five surgeries. The scars that criss-cross her back are constant reminders of the sun's dangers.

"It's the leading cancer killer of women between 20 and 30 and that just blows my mind that. If you think it can't happen to you, you know I'm living proof," she said.

Combining her fame and her frustration, Shonda started the SHADE Foundation to raise money and public awareness about skin cancer.

SHADE participates in everything from charity baseball games to "Stitch and Pitch" knitting bees. But as the mother of four, Shonda says their real focus is on educating kids and their parents.

What you need to know

[Skin cancer types](#)

[The ABCD rule](#)

[How to do a self exam](#)

[More ...](#)

[Custom Video ...](#)

"I started raising money, but I also wanted to educate because I wanted it to be a learned behavior for kids," she said. "I don't ever want another child to grow up and either go through what I've gone through or for a parent to go through what my parents have gone through."

This year Shonda decided it was time for SHADE's moment in the sun so she started training for the Boston Marathon.

"After I was diagnosed I was afraid to do anything ... afraid to go outside," she said. "This was a way for me to take back my life, but also to show people that you can still be part of the community and be sun safe at the same time.

While Shonda was running the race in sun protective clothing, across town, her husband was working on a victory of his own. After beating the Blue Jays, Curt high-tailed it to the finish line.

"You know you put time and effort and commit to something you've done for this. It's rewarding to see her finish," said Curt. "It's awesome. I'm so proud of her. I'm so proud, I didn't care what the clock said, I just want her to cross the finish line on both feet."

"I'm so glad it's over," said Shonda. "It's much harder than I thought it would be."

That's two victories in one day for the Schillings, not to mention attaining the goal of educating countless fans about skin cancer along the way.

Through the SHADE foundation, the Schillings have come up with several innovative ways to enlighten people about skin cancer, including giving out kids sunproof Red Sox hats at a home game in the middle of summer, and in this year's swimsuit issue of Sports Illustrated, amid all the bikini clad beauties on the beach, the Schillings took out a full page ad endorsing sun protective swimwear.

If you have questions about skin cancer or any other cancer, call your American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345. Cancer information specialists are standing by to provide immediate answers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They'll also put you in touch with local resources and send a free personalized information packet to fit your specific needs.

Skin Cancer: A burning Issue

Racecar driver nearly sidelined

MLB pitcher Curt Schilling's wife battles cancer in her 30s

Game show host Bob Barker pays for soaking up sun

Seattle-area man's products keep people protected from sun

Teenage tans can come back to haunt you

Protect children from damaging sun

Meteorologist Jeff Renner says Northwest weather can be deceptive

The debate over Vitamin D

Dr. Argenyi's Marvelous Mole Machine

Important skinformation

Promising research being done in Seattle

How to do a self exam

Cancer resource links

Video links

ARTICLE TOOLS: [Print it](#) | [Discuss it](#) | [E-mail it to a friend](#)

Table of Contents

Home Page
Local News Index
Education
Environment
KING 5 Investigators
KING 5 News Up Front
Legally Speaking

Traffic Index
Speed/Flow Maps
Drive Times
Custom Cams

Sports Index
Mariners/MLB
Seahawks/NFL

HealthLink Index
Lifestyles Index
Food
Travel/NW Backroads
Pets/Animals
Autos

Home & Garden Index
Gardening w/Ciscoe

Video Index
Gardening w/Ciscoe
KING 5 News Up Front

Live Cams Index

What's on TV
Evening Magazine
Northwest Backroads

Classified Center
AdCenter
Cars.com
MySpecialsDirect

Weather Index

10-day Forecast
Live doppler
Live Cams
SchoolNet
Weather Pix

Sonics/Storm/NBA

Biz/Tech Index
National News Index
World News Index

Entertainment Index

Movies
Music
Video Games

Schoolnet Cams
Seattle/Bellevue Traffic
Tacoma Traffic

Site Map

[Help Center](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Advertising](#) | [Site Map](#) | [About Us](#)
KING5.com - 2005 Edward R. Murrow award winner for best regional broadcast Web site.

© 2006 KING TV