

Living Proof

Sarah's Story

Focused. Determined. Successful. As a two-time member of the National Junior college Athletic Association woman's volleyball All-America team, Sarah Panzau knew what it was like to be on top of her game-and on top of the world. But not long after, she nearly lost it all.

Somewhere between life as a competitively driven high-school athlete and the early years of college, Sarah began heading down a destructive path. She found herself hanging out with the wrong crowd, getting more out of drugs and dangerous levels of alcohol than hitting the books and spiking a ball. She was trapped in a pattern of making poor choices that would one day catch up with her.

That day was August 23, 2003. Just before 4:30 a.m. that morning, Sarah's car-and her life-spun out of control. With a blood-alcohol level nearly four times the legal limit, the 21-year old decided to drive home drunk, missed a highway exit and rolled her car four times. Without a seat belt, she was ejected through the rear window of her car, her left arm was torn from her body and she was thrown onto the roadway.

Members of the emergency team that arrived on the scene were prepared to pronounce her dead. Just before making the call, Sarah offered a last sign of life-she gasped for air. The trauma team stabilized her, and she was airlifted to a hospital where she underwent eight-and-a-half hours of emergency surgery.

She had been lucky all those other nights. This time, Sarah's decision to drive drunk landed her in the hospital for several months and has resulted in more than 30 surgeries. But all of the pain from her severe injuries does not compare to the pain of living life without her left arm. This was the same arm that helped propel Sarah to the top of her game in her favorite sport-the same arm that helped her earn a full-ride athletic scholarship.



SARAH
PANZAU



Living Proof

A NEW DIRECTION

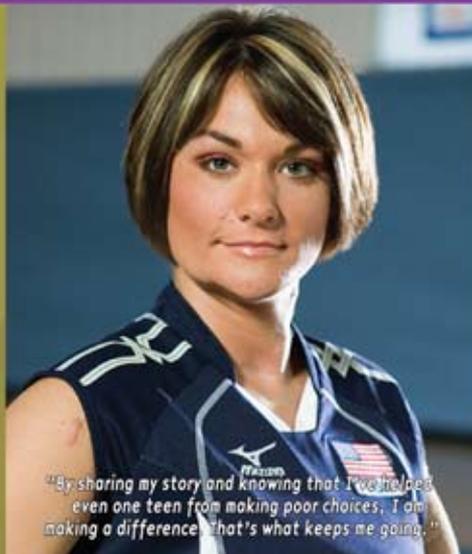
Sarah is Living Proof that poor choices can have drastic consequences. Since the crash in 2003, her life has taken a new direction. Sarah has reached students at middle and high schools, as well as at colleges, with her messages about underage drinking, drunk driving, making smart choices, respecting parents and rising above disabilities. She poignantly describes the physical and emotional pain of a life that is forever changed because of the poor decision she made. Sarah also talks about peer pressure, the "wrong crowd" and the meaning of "real" friends. She pleads with students to spot the telltale warning signs in others and underscores the need to seek help. Sarah delivers her messages in a powerful and emotional manner that leaves young people spellbound. She doesn't speak from a podium. Instead, she makes a lasting impression by walking among the students donning athletic wear, so her scars help tell the story of her poor choices. Sarah's youth, energy and humor are a direct connect with students.

BACK IN THE GAME

Sarah's message also is about determination and perseverance. Despite the crash and her loss of an arm, Sarah was able to represent her country by playing volleyball on the USA Women's Sitting Volleyball Team. She toured internationally, competing in the World Championships, until injuries resulting from her now compromised state of health, ultimately caught up with her and forced her to give up the sport she loves. Today, Sarah talks about how her poor decisions took away her ability to play competitive volleyball.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

For nearly three decades, our company and its nationwide network of 600 independent wholesalers have invested more than three-quarters of a billion dollars on national advertising campaigns and community-based programs to promote responsible drinking and help prevent underage drinking and drunk driving. We will continue our long-standing commitment to be part of the solution to these issues.



"By sharing my story and knowing that I've helped even one teen from making poor choices, I am making a difference. That's what keeps me going."

"After listening to your story and how much it changed your life in a heartbeat, I have changed my ways."

High-School Student

"After hearing what you had to say, I walked out of that auditorium a new person. Your presentation touched me in a way I have never felt before. I sat there today with my cousin beside me. And when you talked about how your family is all you really have in life, I grabbed my cousin's hand and told her I hope she knows I love her. For the first time, I feel like that came from my heart. Sarah, you are truly an inspiration to me. I admire your courage and I want you to know that you made a difference in my life."

High-School Student

"As you talked, I never saw a young woman with a disability. I saw a hero. You are a courageous person and it was a true privilege and honor to have you as a speaker at our high school."

High-School Teacher

How To Schedule Sarah

For more information about scheduling the program, please contact your local Anheuser-Busch wholesaler or write to:

Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.
Consumer Awareness and Education Department
One Busch Place, 202-7
St. Louis, MO 63118



RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS
ANHEUSER-BUSCH, INC.
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"I am living proof of what can happen when you make poor choices."