

Bayfield woman who conquered Mt. Everest sets sights on MS next

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A series on climbing Mount Everest airing on the Discovery Channel is giving a Bayfield woman flashbacks. Mike Simonson reports from Superior.

Lori Schneider became the first person with multiple sclerosis to climb to the top of Mount Everest. She did that in May.

"It's still surreal in my mind that I was ever up there. When I was watching the Mount Everest shows, it hit me. Did I really do that? (laughs)"

Schneider spent the last 16 years climbing all seven of the continental summits, finishing with this six week trek to climb to the top of the world.

"Climbing Everest was something I had to prove to myself. I had to prove that I was still in charge of my physical body, at least for now with MS. I needed to push it to the limit and see how strong I was physically and to see how strong I was mentally."

Now, Schneider is booked to speak at the World MS Day conference in Stuttgart, Germany, and has been invited to speak in Spain, Holland, Austria, and Slovakia.

"To put a face to MS and give people with MS hope that their physical lives are not over. Of course, most people with MS are not able to climb mountains in their lives. Most people have difficulty walking across the room."

She wants people to know that it all takes one step at a time.

Schneider's website is

<http://www.empowermentthroughadventure.com/>