



PARMINDER'S INJURY is visible in *Bend It Like Beckham*.

BURNS NEARLY CRIPPLE 'ER' STAR FOR LIFE

"ER" STAR Parminder Nagra owes her life to emergency room doctors who saved her after a horrifying childhood accident left her scarred — and nearly cost her a leg.

"I was in the hospital for nine months," said the actress, 29, who plays Dr. Neela Rasgotra on the NBC drama. "The doctors thought I might die."

Parminder's right thigh was horribly burned when she was 7 and living in Leicester, England.

"I was cooking at the stove,"

she said. "I reached for something and my clothes caught fire. My right leg was engulfed in flames."



"I did exactly what one shouldn't do — I tried to peel off the burned cotton, and by doing so, I peeled off my burned skin."

"It hurt tremendously. They took me to the hospital and the doctors weren't sure they could save my leg. They said I would

never walk like a normal person.

The scar tissue became so tight, doctors had to repeatedly tear it so that she could straighten her leg. But they kept pushing Parminder — and she made a full recovery.

The actress, whose scar is visible in her hit movie, *"Bend It Like Beckham,"* says that the caring doctors and nurses from her youth continue to inspire her on "ER."

She said: "It was the best feeling ever, crossing that fear (of never walking normal again) and having people helping you achieve that."

— ROBIN MIZRAHI