

A Reflection on the Change of Seasons

Once again it is October and even in our lovely tropical domain, the scent of fall is in the air. As Winter approaches, so does the new singles season which seems to kick off each year in late October. Ironically, for me the onset of each new singles racquetball season feels like Spring. Each year the first tournament harbors a myriad of unconscious reminders of every Spring that has ever passed. Teasingly like Spring, each new racquetball season contains fresh hopes and opportunities, hanging temptingly like ripening fruit. Each new season, like Spring, is forgiving and forgetful of the unkindness of seasons past.

The Florida players on the following lists met the challenges of the 2006 racquetball season with honors. The elite group below distinguished themselves by reaching the semi-finals of their division.

	Division	Player	City	Finish
25	Men's Age - 25+	Mike Harmon		1
30	Men's Age - 30+	Aaron Metcalf	Jacksonville, FL	1
30	Women's Age - 30+	Vivian Gomez		2
35	Men's Age - 35+	Aaron Metcalf		3
45	Men's Age - 45+	Tim Hansen	Wellington, FL	2
45	Women's Age - 45+	Jacqueline Gopie		4
50	Men's Age - 50+	Tom Travers	Delray Beach, FL	2
50	Women's Age - 50+	Susan Pfahler	Neptune Beach, FL	1
35+ A	Men's Age - 35+ A	Julio Estrada		4
40+ C	Men's Age - 40+ C	Paul Kochanowsky		2
A	Men's Singles - A	Mark Davis	Clearwater, FL	1

For me, Autumn is a time for reflection that gives me a chance to review my own personal seasons, and to acknowledge and appreciate many things. It can also be a time to plan and reevaluate, to strive, to measure, and to redefine goals. In our racquetball community we have many opportunities to gauge our game with leagues and tournaments. Small tournaments, big tournaments, local players, National caliber players – we have countless opportunities to measure and seek personal growth. The following competitors set the highest standards for themselves in 2006 by taking their game to Houston and competing at the National Singles tournament.

Player	City	Division	Result	note
Aaron Metcalf	Jacksonville, FL	Men's Age - 30+	1	
Aaron Metcalf		Men's Age - 35+	3	
Allison Dauer	Coral Springs, FL	Women's Singles - B		QTRS
Brad Slocum		Men's Age - 24-		QTRS
Brad Slocum	Sarasota, FL	Men's Singles - Open		
Charles Cole	Tamarac, FL	Men's Age - 40+ A		
Charles Cole		Men's Age - 45+ A		
Chigozie Ijeoma	Fort Lauderdale, FL	Men's Singles - A		
Chigozie Ijeoma		Men's Age - 25+ A		
Chuck Rousenberg	Tampa, FL	Men's Age - 40+		
Ellson Williams	Jacksonville, FL	Men's Age - 50+ B		
Fernando Arias	Miami, FL	Men's Age - 65+		
Frank Borgan		Men's Age - 55+ A		
Frank Borgan	Orlando, FL	Men's Age - 60+		
Frank Duranza		Men's Age - 40+ B		
Frank Duranza	Plantation, FL	Men's Singles - B		
Jacqueline Gopie	Coral Gables, FL	Women's Age - 40+		PEND
Jacqueline Gopie		Women's Age - 45+	4	
Jean Trimble	Orlando, FL	Women's Age - 50+		PEND
John Welsh	Wellington, FL	Men's Singles - B		
John Welsh		Men's Age - 30+ B		PEND
Joseph Miller	Miami, FL	Men's Age - 75+		PEND
Julio Estrada	Fort Walton Beach, FL	Men's Singles - A		
Julio Estrada		Men's Age - 35+ A	4	
Ken Arrowsmith	Tampa, FL	Men's Age - 50+		
Kim Roy		Women's Age - 30+ B		PEND
Kim Roy	Tampa Bay, FL	Women's Singles - B		
Laura Brandt		Women's Singles - Elite		
Laura Brandt	Southwest Ranches, FL	Women's Age - 40+		PEND
Leonard Mervin		Men's Age - 45+		
Leonard Mervin	Orlando, FL	Men's Age - 40+		
Mark Davis		Men's Age - 35+		
Mark Davis	Clearwater, FL	Men's Singles - A	1	
Mike Harmon		Men's Age - 25+	1	
Mike Harmon	Sarasota, FL	Men's Singles - Open		
Paul Kochanowsky		Men's Age - 40+ C	2	
Paul Kochanowsky	Tallahassee, FL	Men's Singles - C		
Renee Fish		Women's Age - 45+ A		PEND
Renee Fish	Dunedin, FL	Women's Age - 50+ A		PEND
Ricardo Kramer		Men's Age - 35+		
Ricardo Kramer		Men's Age - 40+		
Russ Deegan		Men's Singles - Elite		
Russ Deegan	Gainesville, FL	Men's Age - 60+		
Susan Pfahler	Neptune Beach, FL	Women's Age - 50+	1	
Tim Hansen	Wellington, FL	Men's Age - 45+	2	
Tom Travers	Delray Beach, FL	Men's Age - 50+	2	
Vivian Gomez	Miami, FL	Women's Singles - Open		
Vivian Gomez		Women's Age - 30+	2	

For some players, as the season approaches it is time to take a deep breath and dedicate an entire season to preparing for Nationals. To others, the challenge court is the perfect place to define our abilities. Either way, enjoy the change of seasons, and the opportunities it provides to acknowledge fellow

players and their accomplishments, and to set your own goals, on whatever scale possible, for next season. Have a nice journey, and hope to see you along the way.