

**Athletes of the Year selected from 2005 Sunshine State Games'** (an excerpt from the Florida Sports Foundation web site)

An up-and-coming weightlifter and an established veteran racquetball player have been selected the 2005 Jimmy Carnes Sunshine State Games Athletes of the Year. Ryan Milmoie, 19, a weightlifter from Fort Lauderdale and Susan Pfahler, 50, of Neptune Beach, earned their awards during the 2005 Games, held June 12-15 in Broward County. The pair was chosen from more than 6,500 of Florida's finest amateur athletes competing in 25 sports in the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Olympic-style Sports Festival.

Since the 2000 Sunshine State Games, Susan Pfahler has won nine medals in racquetball singles and doubles competition (4 gold, 3 silver, 2 bronze). In 2005 she was the Women's Open singles champion and has been playing in the Sunshine State Games since its inception in 1980, according to Racquetball Sport Director Mary Lyons.

Pfahler won the Women's singles 50+ division at the 2005 U.S. Amateur Racquetball Championships in Houston in May and is part of the Women's Doubles 45+ National Champion team, with partner Mary Lyons. The duo won the championship in October, 2004 at the USA National Doubles Racquetball Championships in Tempe, Arizona. She was part of the 1992 Women's Doubles National Champions and 1993 Pan American Racquetball Championships. "Susan has represented Florida in Olympic Festivals as well as a member of the U.S. National Racquetball team abroad," said her nominator Mary Lyons. "She is truly an exceptional athlete and a great representative of Florida."

Florida's Sunshine State Games are a program of the Florida Sports Foundation, the official sports promotion and development organization of the State of Florida.

The 2006 Summer Games will be held in Miami-Dade County, June 14-18. For more information about the Florida Sports Foundation and the Sunshine State Games, Florida's only Olympic-style Sports Festival, check [www.flasports.com](http://www.flasports.com) or call toll free 1-866-FL-GAMES (354-2637).