



John Christen grew up on the Hammond Park Tennis Courts in Minot to be an outstanding high school and college tennis player. He has been a teaching pro at Midtown Athletic Club in Sioux City, Iowa, played USTA team tennis in the Twin Cities, and continues playing top-notch tennis today as a respected member of Courts Plus in Fargo.

Playing for Bishop Ryan High School in Minot, John was a state qualifier in doubles at the Boys State Tennis Tournaments in 1977 and 1978. In 1979 he placed third in Singles, in 1980 he was second in Singles, and in 1981 he was the State

Singles Champion. In 1982 he was a finalist for the North Dakota Associated Press Sportscasters and Sportswriters High School Men's Athlete of the Year.

Playing for the University of North Dakota, John was the North Central Conference #3 Singles Champion in 1983 and 1984. In 1985 he was the #1 Doubles Champion and in 1986 he was the #1 Singles 3rd Place winner.

In addition to being a standout tennis player, John excelled in wrestling. In 1981 and 1982 he was an individual high school state wrestling champion. In 1986 and 1987 he was a Division II All-American Wrestler for the University of North Dakota. In 1986 he was a finalist for the North Dakota Associated Press Sportscasters and Sportswriters College Men's Athlete of the Year. In 1991 he was inducted into the North Dakota Wrestling Hall of Fame and in 2012 was inducted into the University of North Dakota Athletics Hall of Fame.

John currently lives in Fargo with his wife, Angie.



"A lightning rod of energy and fierce competitor," Minot High School tennis player **Raman Jayapathy** was a North Dakota high school state singles champion (1979) after having placed 5th in 1978 and 5th in doubles in 1977. He was also a two-time All-American honoree (1984, 1985) during the Golden Era of Gustavus tennis in the early 1980s. He was a key contributor on teams that posted four top-five finishes at the NCAA Championships including fifth place in 1981, first in 1982, second in 1984, and fifth in 1985.

During his second season on the squad, Jayapathy helped the Gusties capture the 1982 NCAA championship, edging host Kalamazoo College. In 1984, Jayapathy and

doubles partner Riley Horan compiled a record of 20-13 and advanced to the finals of the NCAA Doubles Championship before falling to the top-seeded team from UC-San Diego. In 1985, he compiled a singles mark of 19-9 and advanced to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Singles Championship before losing to the defending national champion.

During his standout career, Jayapathy compiled a record of 72-33 in singles and 67-25 in doubles. He won three MIAC singles titles (#6 in 1981, #4 in 1984, and #2 in 1985) and one MIAC doubles title (#3 in 1985) and was a member of four MIAC championship teams (1981, 1982, 1984, 1985).

After graduating in 1985 with a major in political science, and minor in business and psychology, Jayapathy played professional tennis from Fall of 1985 to 1987, where he was world ranked in doubles in the ATP.

He is a teaching professional and active member of the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Northern Section from 1992-2023. From 1997 through 2002 he was the Chairperson for the Junior and Junior High Performance Section Committee of the USTA Northern Section and on the Board of Directors of the Northern Section from 1999 through 2002. He was also nominated and received a position on the National USTA Adult Programming Committee but did not accept the position. In 2000, Raman received the Frank Voigt Pro of the Year from the USTA Northern Section. Also, in 1999, Raman and his Doubles partner, Mike Husebo, played in the USTA Northern Section Open Doubles and money tournaments. They lost only one match that year and were ranked #1.

Raman is a member of the USPTA since 1996. He played USPTA national tournaments where, in 2009, he was ranked 5th nationally in the Men's 45 and over Doubles and in 2013, he was again ranked 5th nationally in the Men's 45 Doubles. Raman and his partners won the National Indoor 45 and over Doubles Tournaments in those respective years.

From 2003 to 2018, Jayapathy was the Director of Tennis at Bearpath Golf and Country Club in Eden Prairie, Minn.

Since 1992, Jayapathy has organized men's tennis programs at Flagship Athletic Club in Eden Prairie. Also taught Sectional and National ranked juniors too. He taught and coached a player through juniors, college, and his pro career where he became world ranked.

He earned his law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1990 and has been in private practice since 1992, specializing in corporate, business, and estate law. Since 2020, Raman became General Counsel of an international tech company. Raman lives in Eden Prairie, Minnesota.

In 2019 he was inducted into the Gustavus Adolphus College Hall of Fame.

For more information on Raman, visit

<https://gustavus.edu/athletics/halloffame/?sport=23&team=45&member=4510>

Past Hall of Fame Inductees

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| 2014 Tom Wynne
Tim Wynne
Phil Woledge
Sandy Wald-Clooten
Warner McNair
Larry Dodge
Bob Cordova | 2015 Jerry Lyon
Jerry Caulfield |
| 2016 Lee Nagel
Brent Frueh | 2017 Terry Paukert
David Gaetz |
| 2018 Jack Pfister
Sergio Gambucci Family | 2019 Vic Youngs
Ron York |
| 2020 Liza Wischer
Julie Gilbertson | 2021 Greg LaDouceur
Erik & Susan Kringlie |
| 2022 Tyler Thomson
Scott McPherson | |

10th Annual North Dakota Tennis Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Honoring John Christen and Raman Jayapathy

2:00 p.m. Saturday, July 15, 2023
Hammond Park Tennis Complex
Minot, North Dakota



The North Dakota Tennis Hall of Fame is sponsored by the North Dakota Tennis Association and the USTA Northern Section. It has been in existence since 2014. Its purpose is to honor exemplary North Dakota tennis players, supporters, and volunteers. Its physical location is inside Choice Health & Fitness in Grand Forks. To learn more about the Hall of Fame and its inductees, visit <https://playtennis.usta.com/northdakota/HallofFame>.