

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.