



moments  
of integrity

# AUGUSTE MOISSON

Written by: **Kristin Butler**

**M** meet Auguste Moisson: a 16-year-old boy with a positive outlook on life, who has risen above his circumstances to actively pursue and accomplish every one of his goals.

At the age of 10, Auguste was diagnosed with IGA Nephropathy- a disease which has no cause and no cure. Living with this disease involves taking medicine every morning and evening, having monthly labs done, and making trips to Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City for appointments.

Auguste volunteers an additional amount of his time to use his disease to do something positive. He participates in a National

Kidney Study for kids because he says, "If I can help one kid not go through what I have then I'm willing to help." He also participates in the "Battle of the Sexes" (Billie Jean King vs. Bobby Riggs) tennis social and wine auction each fall to raise money and awareness for IGA Nephropathy. Auguste always plays in it and he is very appreciative of the Pinnacle members who help support the cause.

Although his disease is inevitably a part of his everyday life, Auguste has by no means let it get in the way of doing and achieving all that he sets his mind to. He is very active and involved and in addition to being a sophomore at Rogers High School he is a

member of DECA, Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), Young Republicans, RHS Varsity Tennis, Pinnacle Jr Tennis, and plays both piano and the violin. When people ask how he is a straight A student, plays tennis and participates in school clubs with his disease Auguste always says, "I have a kidney disease, but that doesn't define WHO I am, it's just something I deal with." And his success in all areas of his life is witness to that.

Tennis in particular is one of the things that Auguste has excelled at, and based on his success, one might guess he has played the sport for several years, but that assumption would be wrong. He decided to give tennis a shot only six months before high school, yet Auguste made the tennis team his freshman year. And what's even more impressive is that Auguste, who started tennis at the age of 14, is now ranked 16th in sophomores in the state of Arkansas. He is also somewhat of a unique player, "I am a left-handed player which is uncommon in the sport. I also try to always have a positive attitude while playing and to be mindful of my sportsmanship. I love the game and work hard which is important to remember during difficult matches or tournaments".

Auguste is obviously a natural talent when it comes to tennis, but he also very much loves the sport for what it is; "I love the quick pace of the game. I love how it involves not just physical strength; it involves mental toughness. The satisfaction of executing a shot during a match makes my day!"

Tennis is not the only thing that Auguste excels at because he makes a point to do his best at everything whether it be sports, school, or other extracurricular activities; "I am an extremely hard and dedicated worker. I don't finish until the work is done and strive to do my best in everything to which I put my mind. I prioritize throughout my day to ensure I am able to complete everything in my schedule."

Besides his own drive and ambition, Auguste acknowledges that his twin sisters have had a very positive influence on him; "I personally admire my older sisters. Their ambitions, work ethic, and abilities are constantly motivating me to go the extra mile in everything I do. They instill in me a strong desire to not just do something but to do something to the best of my ability and to never give up. They care about my success and encourage me to always be better while still acknowledging my daily accomplishments and hard work. The three of us are very close, so we know what each other is capable of and push each other to live up to that."

With his natural talent and love for tennis, it is no surprise that Auguste would love to play on the college level. However, he holds that, "education is first priority and I will not compromise education for tennis". Although he does not know where he would like to attend college yet, he has a great interest in engineering or in the medical field.

Auguste's hard work, drive, and dedication have already led him to achieve some of his goals. There's no doubt that this pattern and mind set will follow him into his future and lead him to succeed and accomplish great things in his college years, his career, and beyond.

**Martha Cox, Music Instructor:** "Auguste has an unquenchable enthusiasm for life. He is truly an inspiration to all who know him, adults and peers alike. He is a young man of integrity and accountability; a role model for other young people. He meets adversity head on while maintaining a positive, uplifting attitude."

**John Doohan, Tennis Coach:** "Auguste is by far one of the hardest workers in the junior program at Pinnacle Country Club, which has led to him becoming the most improved player we have over the past year. I believe his best quality is the outstanding sportsmanship he shows whether he is winning or losing a match, which is a rare quality these days in junior tennis."

**Ann Hendrix, Pinnacle Jr. Tennis:** "Auguste Moisson is the someone I use as an example to my own children on how to treat others, act with integrity and overcome adversity. He's a solid kid and we are lucky to have him in our junior tennis program."



**Brandon Simmons, Lloyd Du Preez, and Brian Carneal of Integrity Capital Wealth Management would like to congratulate Auguste Moisson for being this month's Moments of Integrity award winner.**



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