

TENNIS TALK August 2015  
Submitted by Shelby Rhyne  
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**TITLE:** Tom Parhem, Madison native, writes The Little Green Book of Tennis

Tom Parhem grew up in Madison and retired in 2004 after a long career of coaching college tennis teams. His father, Rev. E. T. Parhem, was minister at First Baptist Church of Madison and won the 1951 Madison City Tennis Championships. Deems Webster, who was born and raised in Madison, says "Tom was my neighbor and first coach. He was already a coach at 10 years old."

As a college tennis coach at Atlantic Christian College (now Barton College) and Elon University, Parham amassed a lifetime record of 597 wins and 195 losses and has been inducted into 10 athletic halls of fame. His teams from both schools collectively won three national championships; and he was selected National Tennis Coach of the Year four times.

The book is patterned after the famous Little Red Book of Golf by Harvey Penwick and written in a blog style. "What I did was write it down," Parham said of the techniques he describes in his book. "I've taken the same kind of lessons from master teachers, and all the matches and players that I've watched in my career, and I've put it in Harvey's form."

For more information on the book, including ways to order it in print or for e-readers, visit <https://tomparham.wordpress.com/> or email Parham at ethomasparham@gmail.com.

***Rockingham County Tennis Association (RC Tennis), formed in 2014, is an organized group of dedicated volunteers and professionals who come together to provide programs and events to promote the growth of tennis in Rockingham County.***

*For more information about tennis for all ages in Rockingham County, go to our webpage at [www.rockingham.usta.com](http://www.rockingham.usta.com) and follow us on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/RCYouthtennis](http://www.Facebook.com/RCYouthtennis).*

THE LITTLE GREEN BOOK  
OF TENNIS



FOR PLAYERS, COACHES,  
TEAMS, TEACHERS, AND FANS

TOM PARHAM