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About Rick Rothacker, author of *Banktown: The Rise and Struggles of Charlotte's Big Banks*

Rick Rothacker has been a reporter at the *Charlotte Observer* since 1998, covering banking since 2001. He received the Gerald Loeb Award for beat writing in June 2009 for his coverage of Wachovia and has also won awards from the Society of American Business Editors and Writers and the North Carolina Press Association.

In the two-week period when Wachovia was being sold, the *Charlotte Observer* stories written by Rothacker and his colleagues received more than a million hits on the paper's website. He has now expanded his *Observer* coverage into the book *Banktown: The Rise and Struggles of Charlotte's Big Banks*.

A native Pennsylvanian, Rothacker holds Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism.

Prior to the *Observer*, Rothacker worked for Legi-Slate News Service in Washington, D.C., where he covered Congress and the Pentagon. He also interned at the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Rothacker lives in Charlotte with his wife, Jennifer, and their sons.



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