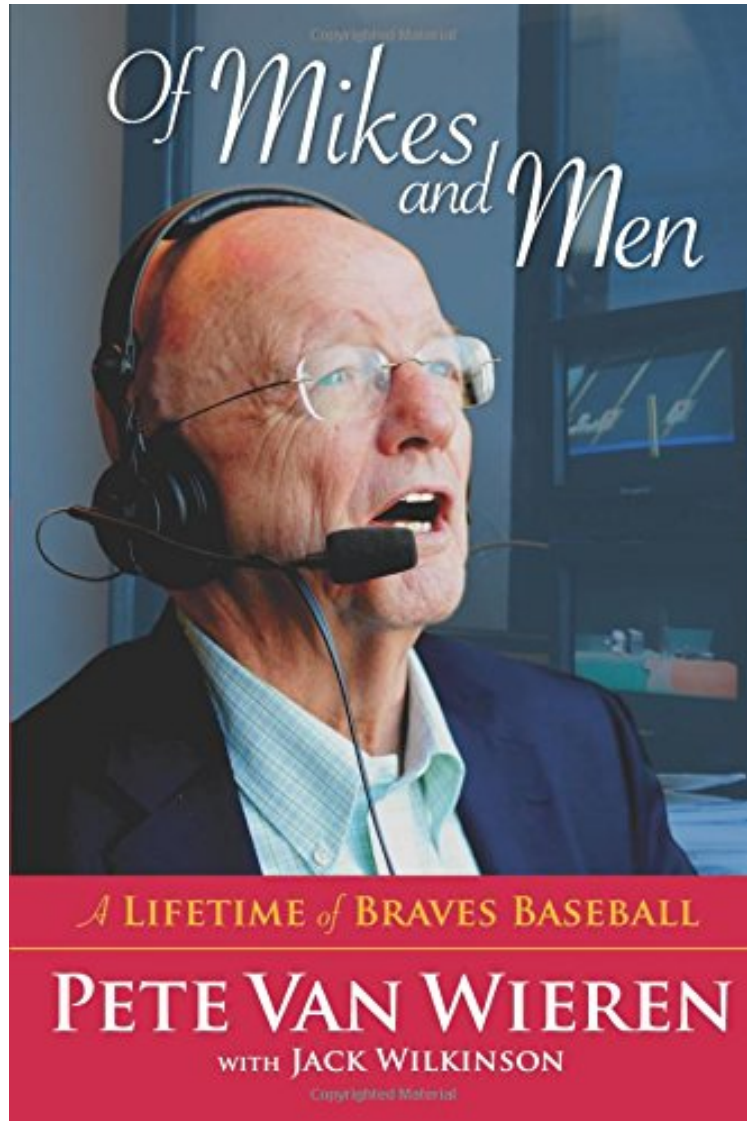


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Of Mikes and Men: A Lifetime of Braves Baseball

Pete Van Wieren, Jack Wilkinson
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Pete Van Wieren, Jack Wilkinson : Of Mikes and Men: A Lifetime of Braves Baseball before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Of Mikes and Men: A Lifetime of Braves Baseball:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The ProfessorBy S. M. SetzerThe Atlanta Braves are my favorite team in all of sports, and Pete Van Wieren (aka "The Professor") was my favorite of their TV and radio announcers. During his career, he was always the one with the facts and figures, while his partners brought the humor (Skip Caray) or the former-player perspective (first Ernie Johnson, then Don Sutton and Joe Simpson). As such, his biography

proceeds in a matter-of-fact manner. It is apparent through the pages that there are certain individuals that he did not particularly care for, and while he does not sugarcoat this, he manages to mostly stay away from the tell-all, mudslinging approach. Indeed, the most negative remarks are reserved for his father (read the book, and you'll understand why), and even those are fairly reserved compared to a lot of tell-all biographies. I admit that being a diehard Braves fan gives me a certain bias here, and I'm not sure how this book would go over with those unfamiliar with the team. If you happen to be a Braves fan, however, this is worth reading. 19 of 20 people found the following review helpful. **The Professor Speaks** By gordo Having been a fan of Peter Van Wieren's "Diamond Notes" for the Atlanta Braves and his play by play style, his autobiography provides insight into his world of sports broadcasting and the remarkable downs and ups of the Atlanta Braves during a significant portion of his 33 year career. Reading his book co-authored with Jack Wilkinson, one of Atlanta's finest sports writers, the reader can hear his voice again as he recounts life in the booth working with and reporting about rather remarkable characters on and off the field. By no means a tell all book other than some tough personal history, the book reflects his love for the game, the people in it and his dedication to truthfully telling the story of what is happening on the field. Braves' fans will love the book as a chance to reconnect with a favorite voice and remember amazing moments of Braves history, both sublime and ridiculous, while also reading a revealing history of the personalities and economics of sports programming as Ted Turner changed sports media through TBS. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. **The Trip Down Memory Lane I Had Hoped For** By Drewxblood This is exactly what any fan of the Braves during Pete's run would hope it would be. It's a solid balance between an autobiography of Pete and retelling of the team's history of the last 35 years. As if we didn't already feel like Pete was a close friend, we now get an inside look at some of the things about his life and career that we didn't get to learn during any of the games. I am 28 years old so 1990 was my first year as a Braves fan. Living in GA, I was there for the fabled 14 clinches. This book soaked me in nostalgia and brought back some memories I had almost forgotten. It also left me wanting to write Pete a letter just to thank him for the journey. Can't lie - I shed a few tears in the chapter focusing on the loss of Skip Caray.

The extraordinary life of an Atlanta Braves Hall of Fame broadcaster is shared in this firsthand account of the highs and lows of Major League Baseball. Pete Van Wieren's legacy began in 1976, when he and a young Skip Caray were hired to call Atlanta Braves games. During the next three decades, "the Professor" and Caray became the voices of a team known nationwide as America's Team courtesy of Ted Turner's SuperStation TBS. In this heartfelt autobiography, Van Wieren shares his memories of thrilling moments in Braves history, such as the 1995 season when the Braves won the world championship; the pitching mastery of Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine, and John Smoltz; the heartbreak of the 1996 World Series loss to the Yankees; and Atlanta's unprecedented run of 14 consecutive division titles.

About the Author Pete Van Wieren is a retired sportscaster best known for serving 33 of his 43 career years as the Major League Baseball play-by-play voice of the Atlanta Braves. He is an 11-time winner of the Georgia Sportscaster of the Year Award and an inductee of the Atlanta Braves Hall of Fame. He lives in Alpharetta, Georgia. Jack Wilkinson has been writing about sports since 1973 for newspapers in Atlanta, Chicago, Miami, and New York and is a three-time Georgia Sportswriter of the Year. He is an official scorer for the Atlanta Braves at Turner Field. He is the author of *100 Things Braves Fans Should Know Do Before They Die*, *Focused on the Top: Georgia Tech's Championship Story*, and *Game of My Life: Atlanta Braves*. He lives in Atlanta, Georgia.