

Atlanta Braves Players Chipper Jones and John Smoltz Named to the *SportingNews* Annual List of "Good Guys in Sports"

The *SportingNews* annual list of "Good Guys in Sports" has been announced, and Atlanta Braves players **Chipper Jones** and **John Smoltz** are two of 17 Major League Baseball players named to the prestigious group of athletes who go to great lengths to give back to their communities. According to the *SportingNews*, "Being a good guy has nothing to do with athletic performance and everything to do with charitableness. These are the athletes ... who open their hearts as well as their wallets to serve the needy and unfortunate." The Atlanta Braves were one of only three MLB teams to have two players named to the 2004 list of "Good Guys in Sports".

Chipper Jones' good works for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the Atlanta YMCA at Carver, and Camp Twin Lakes, along with many programs sponsored by the Chipper Jones Family Foundation, including "Around the Horn," made him a natural pick for the *SportingNews* annual "Good Guys" list. For the past three years, "Around the Horn" has donated more than \$200,000 to youth baseball programs for repairing and refurbishing youth ballparks in Florida and Georgia. In another program aimed at increasing youth interest in baseball, Jones has welcomed "The Chipper Gang," made up of Atlanta-area youth from the Boys and Girls Clubs, to Turner Field for every Sunday home game during the past three seasons.

John Smoltz, also named a *SportingNews* "Good Guy" in 1999 and 2003, devotes countless hours to several non-profit organizations, including The Atlanta Community Food Bank, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, the Alpharetta Police Athletic League, and Kings Ridge Christian School. Smoltz also donates a great deal of time to supporting the Atlanta Braves Community Affairs programs, including Reach Out Be Our Guest, Christmas in July, Weekend of Caring, and Jerseys Off Our Backs. Smoltz and the Braves also host two annual "Close Out Hunger" food drives at Turner Field, benefiting the Atlanta Community Food Bank.

The Atlanta Braves, a division of Turner Broadcasting System, Inc., is Major League Baseball's winningest franchise since 1991. Since then, Braves teams have earned a record 12 consecutive division championships, five National League pennants and a World Series title. Based in Atlanta since 1966, the Braves franchise is the longest continuously operating franchise in Major League Baseball. Atlanta Braves games are carried nationally on TBS Superstation and regionally on Turner South.