



## FIVE MINUTES WITH...

SPORTS REPORTER MICHAEL WILBON | DOING WHAT HE LOVES BEST  
TEXT BY: KEITH W. STRANDBERG

**Michael Wilbon** is a veteran journalist and the co-host of ESPN's phenomenally successful show, "Pardon the Interruption" (PTI), now in its 10th year. Wilbon's unique take on sports has resulted in strong success in print, on TV and on radio and podcasts. "I don't know that I have a secret to success," he admits. "I was in the right place at the right time some of the time, and I have worked hard."



Wilbon on set and in action

"My life is completely and utterly governed by time," Wilbon says. "I have been a reporter for 30 years. I am driven by deadlines, and I know how much time it takes to write a story. I have to be aware of time zones, because my deadline is always on East Coast time, no matter where I happen

to be. I am always running late, but I don't miss deadlines."

### STYLE ESSENTIAL

Wilbon refers to his watches for the time, but he also uses them to reflect his personal sense of style. "I am not a guy that believes in wearing a bunch of jewelry," he details. "But to be well-dressed, you have to wear a watch. I have a couple of Ebel's, a couple of TAG Heuers, a great gold Hamilton and one IWC

piece. I have eight or nine watches that I rotate, and I have my eye on a couple more watches that I might want to pick up. I enjoy good looking watches." Wilbon's favorite watch is his

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steel and gold Ebel, which he wears more than others. "For my next watch, I have my eye on a new IWC, but I also am looking at a David Yurman."



Ebel 1911 in steel and gold

"I don't walk out of my house without a watch," he continues. "I don't like this trend of young people using their cell phones for the time and not wearing watches. My goddaughter just had a birthday, and I bought her a watch. Now, she loves watches."

### LOVING EVERY MINUTE

Listening to Wilbon talk about sports, it's apparent that he is doing what he loves best. "I am addicted to sports and have been since I was 4 years old," he says. "I love being around sports. I married my two interests, sports and writing. I didn't set out to be on television, my career just evolved into that. I love the deadlines, I love being able to be behind the curtain—a press pass allows you to know what other people don't know, about that game, about that player, about that coach. I love storytelling more than any of it. I love going to games, I love walking into the stadiums, I love it all."



Ebel 1911 in brushed and polished steel



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—MICHAEL WILBON, SPORTS JOURNALIST