

McClatchy to continue running Pirates

Written by The Staff

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Kevin McClatchy will remain CEO of the Pittsburgh Pirates. The announcement was made today. "The board and the partnership group are completely supportive of Kevin and his executive team," said board of directors chairman Bob Nutting, the son of G. Ogden Nutting, the majority owner of the franchise. "We've made great strides on the business side of our organization and we're extremely encouraged by the team's performance during the second half of the season."

The Pirates haven't had a winning season since McClatchy came on-board in 1996. The Pirates finished with a 67-95 (.414) season, second worst in the NL, and fourth worst in all of MLB ahead of only the Royals, Devil Rays, and Cubs.

As reported:

Despite playing in a ballpark that was funded largely by tax dollars, the privately held Pirates do not reveal how much profit they make. Revenue sharing money paid by larger market clubs and other income, such as advertising, is believed to have been enough to cover the team's approximately \$47 million payroll this season even before ticket revenue was added.

McClatchy's focus will continue to be improving the on-field performance. The Pirates have had 89 losses or more eight times in 11 seasons since McClatchy's group bought them.

"I am committed to leading this organization to success in all aspects of our business," McClatchy said. "There is no question our on-field record has been extremely frustrating and disappointing for everyone in the Pirates organization. But we've worked very hard over the last several years to improve."

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Besides running the Pirates, McClatchy is a member of Major League Baseball's executive council and the labor and international committees.

With the announcement, many expect the Pirates to continue their losing ways on the field. No major roster moves are expected in the off-season, even though many clubs, such as the Blue Jays and Angels have said they are already gearing up for increased player payroll spending this off-season.

Under McClatchy's tenure the Pirates have never finished above .500. They are a combined 783-996 (.440) since he became CEO in 1996.

([The AP](#))