

## Bochy out with Padres, in with Cubs?

Written by The Staff  
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While there has been talk of Joe Girardi and Lou Piniella, the man that may jump to the front of the candidates for the Cubs managerial opening is still employed.

There have been several reports that Padres manager Bruce Bochy is being granted permission to talk to other clubs, with the Cubs being one club that has requested contact with Bochy. Bochy has managed the Padres to back-to-back National League West titles.

This entry on The Biz of Baseball comes with question marks as the article reports:

It has appeared Piniella is the front-runner, but Bochy's possible availability has slowed that talk. One source said the Cubs were hedging a decision until they checked further into the Bochy situation, citing Hendry's reported effort to interview Bochy in 2002 before settling on Dusty Baker.

Adding further to the new scenario Thursday was a report on foxsports.com that the Padres would grant permission for Bochy to talk with other clubs, even though his team just won back-to-back National League West titles and he has a year remaining on his contract at \$1.9 million. Bochy, 51, has a .494 winning percentage in 12 seasons.

The report could not be confirmed. It is not even known if another club has contacted the Padres because Bochy's most logical landing place would be with the Cubs. And sources insist the Cubs had not contacted the Padres as of Thursday evening.

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( [The Chicago Tribune](#) )