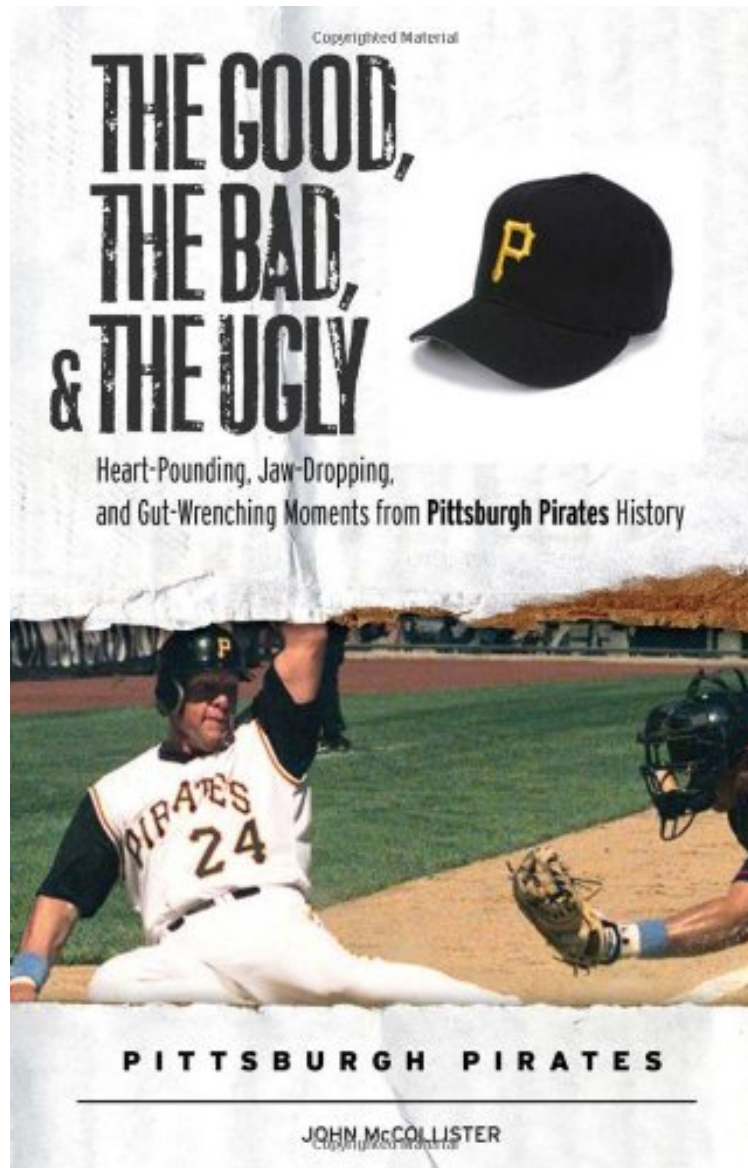


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The Good, the Bad, the Ugly: Pittsburgh Pirates: Heart-Pounding, Jaw-Dropping, and Gut-Wrenching Moments from Pittsburgh Pirates History

John McCollister

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be worth my time, and all praised *The Good, the Bad, the Ugly: Pittsburgh Pirates: Heart-Pounding, Jaw-Dropping, and Gut-Wrenching Moments from Pittsburgh Pirates History*:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Very Good Read
By Christopher P Moore
The book is very insightful and follows the Pirates throughout the organizations infancy to modern times. The stories and personalities bring the Pirates franchise to life, adding a special aspect for fans to cherish and root for today.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. as I'm a Pittsburgh native and love the art of baseball
By Cusser
I must admit to bias here, as I'm a Pittsburgh native and love the art of baseball, and even attended 1960 WS Game #7 as a little kid, kept my ticket and program, and eventually got them signed by Harvey Haddix and Bill Mazeroski. Add the play of the title from my favorite film ever, you've got a winner here !

Genuine fans take the best team moments with the less than great, and know that the games that are best forgotten make the good moments truly shine. This monumental book of the Pittsburgh Pirates documents all the best moments and personalities in the history of the team, but also unmask the regrettably awful and the unflinchingly ugly. In entertaining and unsparing fashion, this book sparkles with Pirates highlights and lowlights, from wonderful and wacky memories to the famous and infamous. Such moments include the final homerun hits of the 1960 World Series by Hal Smith and Bill Mazeroski as well as the drug scandal of the early 1980s. Whether providing fond memories, goose bumps, or laughs, this portrait of the team is sure to appeal to the fan who has been through it all.

From the Publisher "I can tell you with all certainty that the Pirates franchise, for more than a century, has offered Pittsburghers exciting baseball by players who do everything they can to win." --from the foreword by Steve Blass "In an eight-team league, we should've finished ninth." --Joe Garagiola on the stream of terrible Pirates teams during the late 1940s and early 1950s
From the Inside Flap
One of the oldest teams in Major League Baseball, the Pittsburgh Pirates have a rich and storied history. The team boasts a loyal and rabid fan base that has refused to turn its back on its beloved Bucs, despite the less-than-stellar record the Pirates have accumulated over the last 15 years. The Pittsburgh Pirates have been at both extremes of the spectrum--at times a formidable contender with a remarkable lineup and at other times commonly regarded as the worst team in professional baseball. In *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Pittsburgh Pirates*, John McCollister dissects the team's dense and turbulent history in minute detail, holding nothing back. The Pirates' five World Series victories provide a luminous counterbalance to the rampant hard-drug use that permeated the Pirates clubhouse in the late 1970s and early 1980s. The glory of the championship 1979 Bucs is somewhat dwarfed by the slew of atrocious 1940s and 1950s teams that failed to perform time and again. In a region that values hard work and modesty, Pirates fans still praise Roberto Clemente as one of the classiest and most unpretentious men ever to play the game. Clemente, called the "Great One," played baseball like he lived his life--with intelligence and finesse. When Clemente died in a plane crash in 1972, the National Baseball Hall of Fame waived its usual waiting requirements and inducted him immediately. Conversely, Branch Rickey's tenure as the Pirates' general manager is remembered as a blight on the team's history. Hired to pull the Pirates out of a slump, Rickey began trading established players for younger prospects at a rapid clip. When he traded away hometown legend Ralph Kiner, Rickey lost the support of not only the team, but Pittsburgh as a whole. He resigned as general manager two years later, having never elevated the Pirates to better than seventh in an eight-team league. The contrasts are all here. Relive the most glorious victories and the most brutal defeats, the most famous and infamous moments in the team's history, the wealth of outstanding players and those whose abilities did not live up to their boasts. So settle in, Pirates fans, and savor the Bucs history--good, bad, and ugly--that fills these pages.
About the Author
John McCollister is a writer whose articles have appeared in publications including the Saturday Evening Post, Boston Globe, Ladies Circle, Entrepreneur, Writers Digest, Christian Herald, Family Circle, and Science Digest. He is the author of numerous books, which include *Tales from the Pirates Dugout* and *The Bucs!: The Story of the Pittsburgh Pirates*. He lives in Daytona Beach, Florida. Steve Blass is a broadcast announcer for the Pittsburgh Pirates and a former Major League Baseball pitcher for the same team. He was part of the 1971 World Series-winning team and he has been named to the All-Star team. He lives in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.