



PITTSBURGH PIRATES MINOR LEAGUE NEWS

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PIRATES AGREE TO TERMS WITH BURRES, COTTS AND YATES ON MINOR LEAGUE DEALS

The Pittsburgh Pirates today agreed to terms with the following players on minor league contracts with an invitation to spring training.

Brian Burres (LHP) - Spent the 2009 season in the Toronto Blue Jays organization...Went 6-7 with a 4.76 ERA (107.2ip/57er) in 19 games (17 starts) with Triple-A Las Vegas and 0-2 in two starts with the Blue Jays...Has gone 13-20 with a 6.08 ERA (265.0ip/179er) in 81 games (41 starts) in the big leagues with Baltimore (2006-08) and Toronto (2009)...Was originally selected by San Francisco in the 31st round of the 2000 First-Year Player Draft...Has a 50-34 record, three saves and 3.91 ERA (734.2ip/319er) in 198 games (105 starts) in the minor leagues.

Neal Cotts (LHP) - Began the 2009 season with the Chicago Cubs before being optioned to Triple-A Iowa on May 27...Went 0-2 in 19 appearances with the Cubs while stranding 13 of his 14 inherited runners...Posted a 2.84 ERA (12.2ip/4er) in 12 relief appearances with Iowa before undergoing season-ending "Tommy John" elbow ligament replacement surgery on July 2...Has a 10-12 record and 4.63 ERA (256.1ip/132er) in 284 big league appearances (five starts) with the White Sox (2003-06) and Cubs (2007-09).

Tyler Yates (RHP) - Went 0-2 in 15 relief appearances with the Pirates in 2009...Underwent season-ending "Tommy John" surgery on his right elbow on July 14...Was outrighted off Pittsburgh's 40-man roster on October 26 and elected free agency...Has a 12-17 record and a 5.12 ERA (248.0ip/141er) in 239 games (seven starts) in the big leagues with the New York Mets (2004), Atlanta (2006-07) and Pittsburgh (2008-09).

The complete updated list of non-roster invitees is attached.

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