

HOUSTON COUGAR BASEBALL
ATTENTION NEW RECRUITS
AND
WHY RAYNER NOBLE NEEDS TO BE
FIRED!

First of all, I waited until after the 2009 MLB Baseball Draft to send this letter in order not to hurt any baseball player's chances of being drafted at U of H.

Attention: Dr. Renu Khator and the incoming Athletic Director

This story is about a University of Houston baseball player whose college baseball career (2006 - 2009) was destroyed by the head baseball coach (Rayner Noble) at the University of Houston.

I am sending this as an open letter to you and any recruits that may even think about coming to U of H to play baseball. Of course most anyone who reads this is first going to think I am just a disgruntled parent upset with the lack of his son's playing time at U of H. **Not true.** Let me tell you the whole story, you review the stats, and judge for yourself. You will see why Rayner Noble is an evil person with an agenda who has so many people fooled and tries to hide behind the Bible. This man must go before he ruins the

U of H baseball program forever! Year after year Rayner Noble has run off very good talent from U of H.

Unfortunately, we were fooled, lied to and misled and we stayed, thinking that Noble would get tired of his losing ways and would change. This story is very long - but you must read the **whole story** to fully understand!

My son's name is Jimmy Raviele and I am his father. My son is a much bigger man than I am, because he did not want me to write and post this letter. After only 2 or 3 weeks into my son's first season, I started noticing some things transpiring that did not coincide with what my son and I were told when Jimmy was recruited. Jimmy signed with U of H as a two way player (meaning he would pitch and hit). Imagine asking Jimmy to come to play at U of H and telling him that when he is not pitching he will be at 1st base and then just when the season starts telling Jimmy he is not going to hit any longer. That is when I started keeping notes on all what was happening at U of H and Rayner Noble for the past 4 years. This is the story . . .

Any player or parent who reads this and even has the slightest inclination about playing baseball for Rayner Noble at University of Houston or wherever he is coaching, should really rethink their options. Please don't make the same mistake that we did. Sadly, we were told this same thing, but we did not listen.

We were very un-informed and thought that all the horror stories we heard about Noble were BS, but I am here to tell you that what we heard was only half of what actually takes place at U of H Baseball.

Noble like any coach has his favorites. Even as bad as Noble treated my son for the past 4 years, Jimmy still does not have a bad attitude. Jimmy has never smart-mouthed or given Noble a reason to treat him the way Noble treated him over the past 4 years. Jimmy was just simply not one of Noble's Showcase Players or "Special Favorite Players."

PLEASE TAKE NOTE* That being one of Noble's favorites (SFP's) has nothing to do with a players skill level. If someone is fortunate enough to be one of Noble's SFP's you are all set. They will get numerous chances to fail and still feel secure because they know they will be right back in the line up and play again the very next game or right back in the pitching rotation. Also, as an added bonus for being one of "Noble's SFP's is on their first year, Noble will do everything in his power to see that they are in the public's eye at all times. Noble will talk to the media about them and if they should happen to be somewhat talented, Noble will push for them to become a "Freshman All American" and also try to see that they get every award that comes down the pike along with it. Every year Noble will have only 5 or 6 of these so called "**Showcase - SFP's**" on a team consisting of 35 to 40 players. Noble will constantly use these same players in almost every game no matter how many times the Cougars lose. The other spots on the team will be switched out among the remaining players. These remaining subs had better not make an error or ever pitch badly, because if they do, they may then sit out for as much as 3 weeks to 1 month depending on Noble's fluctuating moods.

Before I go any further, I want to tell you that the University of Houston is an excellent school for higher education and we have no quarrels or problems whatsoever with the school itself. My son Jimmy has received one heck of an education there and we are very happy with its professors and administration. I love all the players and parents and being part of the baseball fan base. These parents are all good people who only want the best for their sons and sadly placed their son's baseball future in the hands of an unqualified head coach who thinks he knows how to win but doesn't. A (27 - 31) record speaks for itself! I will tell you this though, if U of H's incoming Athletic Director ever wants the U of H Baseball program ever be compared to the likeness of Rice University's Baseball program they need to [fire Rayner Noble immediately!](#)

Back to the story . . .

Noble did everything in his power to curtail my son's college baseball career and break Jimmy's spirit . . . but thankfully it did not work. In the past four years Noble would never let Jimmy start a game except for one and that was last season's Conference USA Championship Game. And the only reason for that was Noble had **absolutely no one else left!**

Over the past four years, like many years before Noble had his favorite pitchers. It was very apparent who they were. Noble would continue to use these same pitchers time after time throughout the season no matter how many runs they gave up or how many batters they pegged. If they were a starter and did not do well that particular outing, Noble

would belittle them in front of the whole team and in order to punish them, Noble would move them back a day in the rotation for the next weekend. If they did not do well on that next outing Noble would again punish them by moving them back another day to the Sunday starter. If they continued to have more bad appearances they were moved to the weekday starter position. (Tuesday or Wednesday). If they still did not do well as a weekday starter . . . Instead of trying someone else . . . GUESS WHAT? Magically that same pitcher somehow and suddenly was put back in the weekend starter rotation! Why? Did it ever cross Noble's mind that maybe that is why we lost so many games? **Try someone different!** Noble thinks a starter has to throw at least 90 MPH to compete. Rice beat us many times with starters who threw 82 to 85 MPH! Its about control and hitting your spots - not throwing 90's and getting lit up!

I could see not using Jimmy if our other pitchers were getting the job done like the pitchers we had four years ago when Brad Lincoln was pitching for the Cougars. But back then we had bats also . . . 8 or 9 of them! Back then our pitchers got hit just like they get hit now (not quite as bad) but back then somehow we always managed to manufacture runs also and win games. But this year (2009) sadly we didn't!

I honestly love every pitcher on the team and no offense to any of them, but every single one of them including my son Jimmy has been shelled at one time or another this past year. Just like all pitchers, they have had times when they pitched lights out and they had times when

they got shelled. All of them!! The pitchers that ended up doing better this past 2009 season were the ones that Noble pitched more. Look at the stats. Most of these guys started off awful but were continually used and naturally they got better!

PLEASE NOTE: In the following letter I am stating facts only to authenticate my story. In no way am I intending to degrade any pitcher or player on the Cougar Baseball Team. I wish them all the luck in the world in their quest to further their individual baseball career's.

Noble never wanted to try Jimmy for reasons unknown. He never liked Jimmy and did not want him in the spotlight. Jimmy came to U of H as a two way player. It wasn't like Jimmy did horrible at practice (pitching or hitting) to keep him from starting. There was no viable reason not to start Jimmy or let him play first base and hit other than Noble just did not want Jimmy in the starting line-up because he was afraid that Jimmy might do well! The only time Noble would ever let Jimmy pitch was when we were losing beyond control and there was absolutely no chance for recovery. Noble would use any pitcher he could find no matter how badly they did in their last outing before he would use Jimmy. Noble would continually put in relief pitchers that would hit batters, give up hits and load the bases almost every outing and then bring Jimmy in to stop the bleeding and Jimmy would! A normal coach would remember that Jimmy did well and next time maybe bring Jimmy in first for relief. No way, Noble being hard headed

would bring the same relief pitchers back that got into trouble time after time! He would only use Jimmy when there were absolutely no other options left. The last 3 years, Noble would even go as far as to bring in players from the outfield to come in and pitch (who were not pitchers) to put the final nail in our coffin and lose again. Whenever Jimmy did come in, it was usually when the there were no outs and the bases were loaded. (Just like the last game of the regional's at A&M last year - 2008) **Check the stats!**

Why is it that Noble would let his favorite pitchers give up 5 or 6 runs sometimes in the first or second inning and would never even have someone in the bullpen warming up? But all Jimmy has to do is go deep in the count or walk **one person** and Jimmy is pulled! (Example: April 21st 2009 vs. Steven F. Austin) **Why is there a different set of rules for Jimmy?**

As I said before, for some unknown reason Noble had it in for Jimmy from day one. In Jimmy's Freshman summer, Noble kept Jimmy from playing ball in the Cape Cod League because he was jealous that we had our own connections up at the Cape and did not need Noble for Jimmy to play there.

Noble is a control freak. If any player should ever question Noble on something or ask about playtime (which Jimmy never did) it is **career suicide!**

Over the past 4 years, if Noble finds out that one of his assistant coaches is getting a little too friendly with a parent, Noble makes sure he nixes that connection real

quick. Noble tries to make all his coaches be like he is and walk right by parents and fans without ever nodding or saying a word. The only time Noble speaks to a parent is if he needs something or wants you to donate money.

Has anyone ever heard the way he talks to his coaches? He belittles them. He tells them to shut up and will not listen to any input or anything they have to say. If you think, I am making this up ask any of his coaches (off campus of course).

Look back at the Rice series the first weekend of May 09. The last game on Sunday could have been easily won. Wes Musick did his job and kept us in the game but Noble with absolutely no trust in his bullpen, kept Wes in a little too long. Super-Coach Wayne Graham constantly uses his bullpen to stay alive and change pitchers at the first sign of a pitchers fatigue. But not Noble, he has faith in 3 pitchers and 1 closer only. One would think with Noble's constant loss record - he would learn from his mistakes.

It is a breath of fresh air to see Coach Stockton look up in the stands before a game, smile and wave to the parents. Stockton has class. Noble should take heed from him and learn how to act toward people. Whom does Noble think he is? He is a no talent - washed-up college baseball coach who never made the big show for heaven's sake . . . he's not Tony Gwynn!

Let me begin . . .

First of all, I was on the board of directors for the largest Little League in the country for seven years and it's president for 5 years. This was Lamar National Little League in Richmond, Texas. Most large Little Leagues have 200 to 400 players . . . we had more than 1000 back then in one league! We were one of the few Little League's in the world who went to the Little League World Series in Williamsport Pennsylvania back to back in 2003 and 2004. I was president at that time. While president, every day I would receive e-Mails from disgruntled parents who were upset that their child was not playing more than the required two innings that Little League made mandatory. Whenever parents asked me why their son was not playing very much - - I felt that being the president I had a responsibility to the league to check out and see why their son was not playing. I must admit that most of the time the manager was justified for not playing the child in question more than the mandatory play. I made sure I witnessed first hand why their child was not playing more. Some of these kids were non-athletic and overweight, of course this makes these poor kids not being able to catch, not being able run, and not being able to hit or throw like the other kids. But, every once in a while I would see a child who was a very good ball player and was riding the pine for no particular reason. I would speak to the manager of the team about it and if it continued I would remove the manager and he would not be able to ever coach again for us. You would not believe some of the poor excuses that some of these managers told me why they were not playing a particular child. (Examples: That the boy's parents were not in the in-crowd or clique - the parents were poor and did

not fit in, etc.) When I went to a game and verified a claim I made sure that the boy in question was indeed not very good and did not play like the others. I would then go back and tell the parents (and this was very hard to do) that Lamar Little League was known for its competitive teams and recommend that maybe they would want to sign up with another league where their son would get to play more. I explained to them that this was not the YMCA (fun-fair-positive). I cared only about the player's talent and talent alone . . . not how wealthy or what type of parents a player had. Most parents were not realistic and saw their child's talent through rose colored glasses. Some parents could not understand why their son did not make the All Star Team. Did they ever think that maybe the reason why their son never made the All-Star team was because it took three shots to the wall to get their 235-pound 10 year old son around the bases? Lamar Little League was famous for going to the World Series and of course every parent wanted their son to be on TV and play at Lamar Little League.

JIMMY IN LITTLE LEAGUE

Jimmy started playing baseball in 1993 as a T-Baller. Jimmy was always a fairly good player. He was left handed so the coach put him at 1st base. Jimmy liked that position, did well there and has always played first base the since then. When Jimmy was in Little League's Minors Division (9 year olds) he hit 2 home runs over the fence. The first one happened and many (jealous) parents said it hit the outfielder's glove and then went over with some help. The

second one Jimmy smashed was during All Stars in Freeport Texas, needless to say the parents could not say much about that one. You might think to yourself what does this have to do with U of H . . . But wait, over the fence home runs in Little League usually will not happen until boys are 11 or 12 years old. Jimmy's next year in the 10 year old division he hit 4 home runs. Of all the other 8 teams in the 10 year old division, no one else ever hit a home run. Of course as a parent I was proud. In the Major Division of Little League (11& 12 year olds) Jimmy hit 7 home runs as an 11 year old and 14 home runs as a 12 year old. The only other player at Lamar Little League to even come close to Jimmy's record in regular season at Lamar Little League was Randal Grichuk. Randal was just recently drafted (24th pick) out of high school by the Angels in the 1st round of the 2009 MLB Draft. Even at that early age Jimmy was usually the fastest player on the team. Still to this day, **I understand that Jimmy was one of the fastest players on the Cougars.** I know in his freshman year at U of H, Jimmy broke a college record by **22 seconds** for the mile and a half.

I am sure all of you know about politics and all that nonsense that goes with baseball. I heard every type of story why Jimmy was good and the reason he hit so many home runs. I even heard one that said "because I was the president of the little league was the reason Jimmy hit home runs!" How ridiculous! Just because I was president did not mean that I pushed a button to move the outfield fence closer when Jimmy batted. Jimmy evolved into a very good first baseman, Jimmy could dig out the bad

throws and to me that was the hardest part about playing first base. Anyone could play first base but not everyone can dig out the bad throws!

In the 11 year old division of Little League was when Jimmy started pitching. Jimmy never threw the fastest on the team but without a doubt was the most effective. He pitched a few no hitters, many shut outs and made it to the All Star Team every year. Usually the first pick! The all-star team that Jimmy played on won state as 11 year olds. That was as far as 11 year olds went back then.

Jimmy started playing at Baseball USA when he was eleven. I would also make him play little league because being the president of the league I had to set an example with my own son. Lamar Little League did have a few stars but the real baseball talent back then was at Baseball USA. Jimmy would join a team at Baseball USA and of course start at the bottom because no one knew him. Of course the coach's sons were the pitchers, catchers and short stops. On these new teams he would usually not pitch at first and when he played he would bat 8th or 9th for the first few games. I am not trying to be cocky but in a matter of 2 or 3 weeks - Jimmy was batting 4th or 5th and pitching the first game of the series.

Since Jimmy was 11 he took pitching lessons from John Pope (Cy-Fair High School, presently the head coach at the new Cy-Ranch High School). John Pope started teaching school again and Jimmy then started taken lessons from Scipio Spinks, (St. Louis Cardinals). Jimmy had a knuckle ball like no other. It was killer! Whenever Jimmy got two

strikes on a batter he would throw the knuckle and get the 3rd strike almost every time. This ball was un-hittable or if someone did get a piece of it - it usually wasn't much of a hit and just rolled to an infielder to easily make the out.

Jimmy started making a name for himself in and around Houston. Many select teams would call and ask if Jimmy could play for them. If Jimmy could not commit full time because of commitment with another team they would ask Jimmy if he could at least play with them for a special tournament that they were in.

JIMMY IN HIGH SCHOOL (FRESHMAN - SOPHOMORE - JUNIOR YEARS)

This talent followed Jimmy into high school. When Jimmy was not pitching, he was playing 1st base and sometimes right field. The coaches liked Jimmy in right field because Jimmy was the only player on the team that could make a throw to 3rd base or home plate from right field. In 9th grade Jimmy was placed (because of politics) on the JV Baseball team at Foster High School in Richmond, Texas. I say politics because the boys on the varsity team were 3 years older than Jimmy and their parents did not want Jimmy taking the place of their son. At first, the Varsity head coach Brett Montier, listened to some of the dads, and Jimmy was held down on the JV team for only about 2 weeks. Jimmy played for the JV coach named Mark Roering. The first two games that Jimmy pitched on JV we won 11 to 0 and 7 to 0. The varsity team, however lost every game they played. Foster's head baseball coach then decided that regardless what the varsity parents thought,

that he would take a chance and bring Jimmy up to the varsity team for a special game against Strake Jesuit. The JV Coach Mark Roering tried to talk Jimmy out of going up to the varsity team. He told us that Jimmy was a star in JV but he would not be on the varsity team. Jimmy knew that Coach Roering was incorrect because Jimmy had played with most of these same boys that were on Foster's Varsity team in the summer and knew he could compete. Against Coach Roering's wishes, Jimmy went up to the varsity team. The varsity parents were obviously very upset and did not even look at us when we were in the stands. Let me explain why . . . many, if not all the parents on the varsity team played at Lamar Little League at one time or another and some of their boys were not chosen to be on the All Star Team. So the easiest thing to do was to blame me because I was the president of the league. It was much easier to blame me than the coaches or managers who actually were the ones who did not pick their sons for the All Star Teams. Jimmy's first varsity start was at Strake Jesuit. I was looking through the chain link fence when Jimmy took the mound for Foster. To be honest I was somewhat scared because Jimmy was so skinny and small compared to these big 18 year old seniors that Strake had on their team. I thought that one of these giants would hit a ball right at Jimmy - hit him in the head and knock him back past 2nd base like a bowling pin! Thankfully, I was wrong and we beat Strake Jesuit 4 to 1. Jimmy pitched a no hitter up until the last out of the 7th inning! A few of the parents swallowed their pride and came over to congratulate us. Most just walked off. Jimmy continued to win every time he pitched. As a freshman on the varsity

team he was our Friday night starter and because of the games lasting only 7 innings in high school he usually pitched the whole game. Jimmy also led the team in hitting. (over .400 - of course this is high school - but nonetheless). One reason why Jimmy was such a good hitter was his ability to hit a curve ball and in high school that is usually unheard of.

Now here is the best one . . . Bay City was in our district and always had the best team. Especially Jimmy's freshman year, because they had three phenomenal seniors who played - **J. Brent Cox** (UT - 2nd round - New York Yankees) and **Justin Vaclavik** (U of H -7 round Pittsburg Pirates) who were both pitchers and they had an outfielder - **Adam Pointer** (Cincinnati Reds). Vaclavik took the mound for Bay City that night. Jimmy just turned 15 years old and he was facing Vaclavik who was 18. Vaclavik was throwing in the low to mid 90's. To make a long story short Jimmy using his knuckle ball defeated Bay City that night with only **53 pitches** and Foster won the game 5 to 2. After the game Justin Vaclavik did something that many people don't do - he came over and congratulated Jimmy and asked if he was really a freshman! This win put Jimmy on the map. The 2nd time we played Bay City, their other stud pitcher - J. Brent Cox pitched. Jimmy played 1st base for Foster this time. On Cox's first at bat, Jimmy jumped up and robbed a rocket which would have been a double or a triple. Jimmy hit a triple off the right field wall on his first at bat off of Cox and knocked in a run. After the game J. Brent Cox's aunt came over to our dug out and was joking about not liking Jimmy because he beat Bay City in the

first game that we played them and then Jimmy just hit a triple off of her nephew at this game. The summers after that Jimmy played for the Columbia Angels and a few other select teams. Even as a 15 and 16 year old he always played with the older 18 year old teams. Jimmy always hit the ball well and produced many runs. He was always one of the best hitters on any team he played on.

Also, later that year (April 2002) again as a freshman Jimmy beat one of the largest high school's in Texas. "The Victoria Memorial Vipers." At that time, for the past 10 years not one school's baseball team from our area (LCISD) Terry, Lamar, or Foster ever beat the Victoria Memorial Vipers. This was an 8 team tournament. To my understanding there was supposed to be an on going rival between these two school districts for many years past. Jimmy took the mound and pitched the first game for Foster. He shut out Victoria memorial 2 to 0. I will never forget the head coach of Victoria Memorial screaming to his dugout while he was coaching 3rd base "**WHY THE HELL CAN'T WE HIT THIS GUY????**" After the game, Victoria Memorial's players were getting ready to leave and were in the parking area getting into their vehicles - some of them were with their girlfriends. Jimmy walked out toward our truck and of course the senior and junior players were looking at Jimmy mainly because he was a freshman. Jimmy's Mom was following Jimmy trying to put on his arm band. (Ice Pack) Jimmy said he felt so ashamed because here he was with his mother getting in the back seat of our truck while all these kids that Jimmy just struck out and beat were with their girlfriends and

driving their own vehicles home! After our Sunday game they announced that Jimmy was the Wendy's MVP of the Tournament and that whole next week if you went into any Wendy's in Victoria and said the name "Jimmy Raviele" you would get some kind of free food.

Jimmy's High School Stats:

YEAR	BATTING AVE	PITCHING ERA
Freshman	.329	1.02
Sophomore	.433	2.29
Junior	.442	1.55
Senior	.441	1.81

BASEBALL CAMPS & TRYOUTS

In this time a few colleges contacted us and asked us what Jimmy wanted to do with his baseball career. Jimmy had not yet decided what school he wanted to go to. In Jimmy's Junior year of high school he was approached by many scouts when he was playing summer ball for the Angels. A few college coaches actually called him but they were in other states and Jimmy wanted to play and stay close by (U of H, Texas A&M, Rice, etc.). Even though he did receive one, fortunately Jimmy did not need a scholarship so he did not have to go just anywhere. To be seen, Jimmy and some friends signed up for a few local area baseball camps. Rice, U of H and Texas A&M. The first one was at Rice on July 2, 2004. When it was Jimmy's turn to pitch, Wayne Graham actually came out of the dugout and told Jimmy he was

impressed with his knuckleball. The second camp Jimmy attended was held at Cougar Field in November of 2004. The first day of Camp at U of H started on Friday night, Jimmy showed up and met coaches Blount, Allen and Maxie and then attended a meeting. He was put on one of the four teams who would play each other on the following day. On Saturday morning Jimmy's team was doing drills while 2 other teams were playing each other on Cougar Field. Jimmy's team was scheduled to play on Saturday afternoon. Every pitcher was scheduled to pitch 3 innings. Jimmy was the first pitcher to pitch on his red team. **Not one** batter got on base. Back then, Jimmy did not have Noble telling him what pitch to throw and he used his knuckle ball to strike batters out. As a matter of fact, Jimmy struck out **Michael Rockett*** (UTSA) twice that day. While this game was going on there was a pro scout for the Rockies there watching the games named Jeff Edwards. He was very impressed by the way Jimmy's ball moved and how he struck the batters out. Jeff Edwards actually walked behind the umpire on the field during the game to watch Jimmy's ball move. Jeff Edwards looked up at the group of parents and asked who were the parents of number 8 (Jimmy). Again we were so proud that of all the kids at the camp we were called down by this Pro scout. We stood up and Jeff came up to the netting to talk to us. He gave us some papers to fill out and bring back the next day. These papers were about Jimmy getting drafted or going to college. Of course we were very excited.

The next day Jimmy was going to play a position (1st base) and bat for his team. Sean Allen one of U of H coaches

asked me if Jimmy could hit. I did not want to brag so I said "we'll see." On Jimmy's first at bat he hit a ball deep into center field, Jimmy slid into 2nd base and stood up dusting himself off. The 2nd baseman looked at Jimmy and said "Dude it went over!" Jimmy then ran the rest of the way home. Of course once again we were very happy for Jimmy. At that time another U of H coach named Romie Maxey asked Jimmy if he wanted to come play baseball for U of H. Of course Jimmy said "yes." A few days later Jimmy received a call from Coach Blount who confirmed that they wanted Jimmy and told Jimmy in these exact words that "**they would love to have Jimmy come help them beat Rice.**" Jimmy was the happiest person in the world. Jimmy also figured that Coach Noble who never threw hard and also being left handed could only help Jimmy at U of H but it really didn't matter. **Jimmy was doomed from day one!**

I was so happy for Jimmy because he got his dream. Jimmy did not want to go to anymore camps and he cancelled the one that he was to attend at Texas A & M during the Christmas vacation. On the night of December 22nd, Jimmy, his Mom and I were just leaving the Christmas Play "The Nutcracker" in downtown Houston when Jimmy's cell phone rang. Jimmy answered it and it was Coach Blount. Coach Blount asked Jimmy if he was ready to get the deal done and get the paper work signed. Jimmy said "Yes Sir." After the new year we came for a visit and met with Coaches Noble and Blount. After a little tour (we really didn't need one because we were just there at the camp) we sat on the aluminum bleachers on the 3rd base side

overlooking the area where the pitchers warm up. They told us that they wanted Jimmy for pitching and when he was not pitching he would be at 1st base. Because of previous stories that we heard we asked if Jimmy was really going play or sit out (red shirt) the first year and they said that Jimmy would guarantee play. **Once again they said "when Jimmy was not pitching, he will be at 1st base." BIG LIE!! (Jimmy never even stepped on first base - let alone play it) The only time Jimmy ever stepped on first base was when they used him two times (his senior year only) to pinch run!**

The next few months are when the real horror stories began. We heard these stories while at Jimmy's lessons from players who previously either played for or knew players that played for Noble. One was now in the majors and a few in the minors. They said Noble was a nut job. They said Noble had ruined so many players and that Noble doesn't care about a pitcher's arm. They said that in order to win he will try to use the same pitcher that Noble trusts regardless of how much the pitcher had pitched previously. They said Noble gets players to come to U of H and then wants to change their batting stance and the way they pitch from what they knew how to do naturally and made them good enough to be looked at in the first place.

This was the first time we heard about Noble and how religious he was. We were told that Noble pretends to be really religious and then reams the boys out with language that would make a sailor blush! At first we just dismissed these rumors and did tend not to believe these people

telling us these stories. We just wrote it off that some of these people (not all) were probably just jealous that their sons were not going to U of H and Jimmy was, so we did not put much stock in it.

* **Michael Rockett** - Michael Rockett has a great bat and always did. Incidentally, Michael Rockett finished this season off at UTSA with a .394 batting average and 15 Home Runs! The best on his team. If you remember last year on April 30, 2008, the Cougars played UTSA and they beat us 11 - 9. Michael Rockett is the center fielder who threw the ball from the deep center wall all the way to home plate and hosed us two times. Incidentally, Noble let Michael Rockett slip through his fingers by not recognizing Michael's talent! **Michael was drafted this year (2009) in the 13th Round to the Detroit Tigers.**

JIMMY'S HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR YEAR

In Jimmy's senior year of high school he was very happy that he was to attend U of H but he was sad that the High School Baseball coach Brett Montier had changed schools (mainly because of politics) and was not going to be there for Jimmy's senior year. Jimmy loved Coach Montier because he was all about the kids, he constantly made contacts for the kids on the team trying to place them somewhere so that they could continue in baseball and further their education.

Jimmy's former JV coach, Roering was now the head coach at Foster. He was obviously still upset at Jimmy for leaving his JV team three years earlier. He was jealous of Jimmy

and called him a rich boy! He asked Jimmy how much did I (his father) donate to get Jimmy on the U of H team? This was all caused because after Jimmy left the JV team, they won very few games. I know this sounds like bragging but you can check the stats.

During Jimmy's senior regular baseball season Jimmy was visited by many scouts. A few of them called Coach Roering and asked when Jimmy was going to pitch. Coach Roering would never help out the scouts and would tell them he did not know. He told some of them "when I decide when Jimmy is pitching, I will tell Jimmy and he can call you." Of course Jimmy did not have the scouts phone numbers or time to call these scouts. For coach Roering to do this it was obvious that he like Noble did not care for Jimmy. We found out later that he even told some college scouts from Texas A & M that Jimmy had already signed to go to U of H . . . which at the time Jimmy had not.

In March of 2005, Jeff Edwards (Rockies - scout) came to Spring High School to see Jimmy pitch. There were 6 teams playing in a tournament. The first team we played was Memorial High School. Jimmy started the game and pitched five scoreless innings. Jimmy even hit a home run (very easy to do at that small field). Roger Clemens was there with his Mom watching his son Coby play 3rd base for Memorial.

During this time many pro scouts were calling us and asking if Jimmy wanted to go to college or to be drafted out of high school. Of course we said if Jimmy went in the

higher rounds he would go in the minors but he would not go to if he was drafted in the lower rounds. Even though Jimmy knew how to get batters out he would never be drafted in the first few rounds because his velocity was never in the 90s. We were always told you have to throw hard (90's) to get drafted but once you are there velocity is not the most important factor any longer it is getting people out! (Look at Greg Maddox)

Jimmy finished his regular season at Foster with a **.441** batting average with 28 extra base hits and 51 RBI's. His pitching record was 8 - 2 with a **1.81** ERA. The Foster team went to the playoffs and Jimmy started the first game against Waltrip High School (Coach Blount's High School). Jimmy pitched a shutout and we won. In the second round of the playoffs Jimmy beat Santa Fe High School 7 - 2. Jimmy batted over **.500 in the playoffs** that year and was voted to the **All District 1st Team**. At these games were many area scouts who were approaching us asking about Jimmy's future. Jimmy wanted no part of it and told them that he was going to play ball for Rayner Noble at U of H. The scouts would roll their eyes and tell Jimmy that Rayner was nuts and Jimmy might want to rethink about going there. Jimmy did not believe what he heard about U of H and the rest is history!

I have stated all this previous information because you have to know the entire baseball history of Jimmy Raviele to fully understand the whole story and what Noble did to him!

(Jimmy was no slug) He was fast, he could hit, he has a great arm and he could pitch.

JIMMY'S BASEBALL CAREER AT U of H

His Freshman Year "2006"

Jimmy started school at U of H in August of 2005 and started informal baseball practices almost immediately. October 3rd was when they actually started formal practices. Noble told Jimmy right from the start of practice that Jimmy would only be pitching and not hitting. **THIS WAS THE FIRST BIG LIE** - Jimmy felt bad because they told him that he would be a two way player and would play 1st base as well as pitch. Jimmy pitched extremely well at the fall and spring practices and scrimmages. Jimmy was the **ONLY** pitcher that **did NOT give up one run** that entire fall and spring practice season. This was pretty good because Brad Lincoln (4th pick in the 1st Round of the 2006 draft) was there at that time. Jimmy would get two strikes on a batter and throw that knuckle ball of his, and of course the batter would be out on his front foot and strike out. Because of this Jimmy thought, he was going to be a big factor at U of H. He never thought Noble would do what he did to Jimmy, but strangely enough just before the 2006 baseball season started Noble called Jimmy aside and told him to **Can that knuckle ball**. Noble went on to say that Jimmy's knuckle ball was good for high school but would not work in college! Jimmy was shocked because he did phenomenal in the fall and spring pitching against college

players. At this time when Jimmy told me what Noble said, I thought that maybe Noble really knew something that we didn't. I was wrong because back then I did not know Noble was a big no talent joke in the baseball circles. Tim Wakefield (Red Sox - knuckleballer) had a no-hitter in 7-1/3 innings on April 15th, 2009. Only an **idiot** would want to change the way someone pitched when they did so well. **But that is what Noble is known for!**

During this time, of course I was leery about the stories I had heard about Noble. Whenever Jimmy came home from school I would ask him questions about Noble and at first Jimmy always said he liked Coach Noble. Jimmy said one time Noble was watching Jimmy pitching a bull pen. Jimmy said Noble called him aside near the left field fence and pointed to a homeless man pushing a shopping basket (full of junk) near the Mc Donald's parking lot. Jimmy said that Noble said to him "Jimmy if you listen to me . . . I will get you in the Pros . . . if you don't . . . that will be Jimmy Raviele!" (While pointing to the homeless man) I thought that was very hypocritical of Noble to say and do what he did when his life is supposedly guided by the Bible!

In November of 2005, Jimmy said Noble wanted to enter him in a mile and a half race because Jimmy was the fastest runner on his baseball team. I think every coach from every sport at U of H entered an athlete. The Sunday before the race Jimmy played a benefit softball game for his old high school and twisted his ankle. Jimmy was scared to death that Noble was going to freak out because Jimmy had hurt himself. The next day at the race Jimmy tied one shoe on

tight and one very loose because his foot was swollen. Jimmy won the race and broke the previous record by a whopping 22 seconds and ran the last half of the race with only one shoe on because the shoe that was not tied tight fell off.

Our baseball season started on February 7, 2006

2006 Appearances

1.) On February 22nd, Jimmy came in the 9th inning - he got 3 outs and that was his **first** inning of play that season.

NO RUNS SCORED!

2.) On February 25th, Jimmy came in the 9th inning - he got 3 outs and that was his **second** inning of play that season.

NO RUNS SCORED!

3.) On March 4th, again Jimmy came in the 9th inning - he got 3 outs and that was his **third** inning of play that season.

NO RUNS SCORED!

4.) On March 17th, Jimmy came in to pitch the last out in the 11th inning for Aaron Brown who came in for Brad Lincoln. San Diego was on a hitting frenzy. Bases were loaded and Jimmy gave up a shallow hit to center field and was pulled. Zak Presley (was not there yet) would have caught this ball easily.

**THAT WAS IT FOR JIMMY FOR HIS ENTIRE
FRESHMAN YEAR!**

**ONLY 3 INNINGS TOTAL ALL YEAR!!! (4
appearances)**

**Imagine wasting a player's entire Freshman baseball
season for only 3 Innings!**

**NOBLE HAS NO CONSCIENCE - - HE KNEW
WHAT HE WAS DOING TO JIMMY**

**If Noble wanted Jimmy to leave the team for whatever
reason Noble he had in his mini-mind he should have
told Jimmy . . . don't lead Jimmy on for the next 2 ½
months by telling Jimmy to be ready to pitch and never
use him again that entire season!**

Jimmy was never used at 1st base or the outfield either. Jimmy was upset because there were players on this U of H team that Jimmy played with during the summer on the select teams who were never starters and never pitched. Remember, this was when Jimmy played and pitched all the time. Noble used only his favorite guys in the lineup no matter how many times they struck out. Noble even called players in from the outfield to pitch many times while we had a bullpen full (at least 9) of fresh relief pitchers. It would be a total different story if Noble had his favorites come in and win the game for us but they would come in and lose!

That is when we started to learn the truth about Noble! He would have the same pitchers come in time after time and get shelled but the very next game those same pitchers were

out there pitching again and sadly getting shelled again!
You know this is true because it still happens today!

In the meantime they also tried to change Jimmy's pitching stance and the way he threw. Why would they want to change anything? No one was hitting Jimmy at the practice scrimmages?

I knew that something was indeed wrong with Noble because on April 11, 2006 at McNeese, during the game I ran into him coming out of the men's restroom and Noble walked right by me without even looking at me or saying a word. There was no one else there or around at the time. He could have nodded his head or said "Hi" but he was ashamed of what he had been doing to Jimmy and not letting him play for no reason whatsoever. What type of person does this? Whom does he think he is - Donald Trump?

As a matter of fact . . . The only time Noble ever talked or tried to contact me the entire 4 years that Jimmy played for him was at the end of Jimmy's Freshman Year. Noble called me and asked me for a donation for the new weight room. Of course I was upset that Noble didn't play Jimmy more, but for Jimmy's sake only, I sent Noble \$1000.00. Imagine out of a possible 60 games **(540) innings**, Noble plays my son only **3 innings the whole season** and wants a donation! This guy has balls!

The only other time I ever had any other contact with Noble was this past Christmas 2008. He sent us a Christmas Card with a flyer in the envelope (an order form)

to purchase the red seats at Cougar Field! Jeeezz! This guy is worse than Jim and Tammy Faye Baker!

Jimmy's Freshman Summer "2006"

Being from Providence Rhode Island, and only 34 miles away from Cape Cod, my family had friends there. I met someone who had connections with the Cape Cod League and he had it arranged that Jimmy was to play summer ball for the Cotuit Kettleers. (This is a dream of every college baseball player) The head coach for Cotuit did not want to step on anyone's toes so we had it set up that all Noble had to do was call him and say it was OK for Jimmy to play there. Jimmy gave Blount the coach's name and the number to call. Coach Blount told Jimmy some cock & bull story that Noble really wanted Jimmy to go to play for the Liberal Bee Jays in Kansas on the Jay Hawk League. Blount told Jimmy that is where Noble played his summer ball when he was in college and it would mean a lot to Noble if Jimmy went there also. At this time Jimmy still thought Noble "hung the moon" so Jimmy agreed and blew off the Cape Cod League. **Bad Mistake for Jimmy!!**

Jimmy did well in Liberal, Kansas, he was a starter and had a 5-2 record with **31 strike outs** and a **1.61 ERA** in **45 innings pitched!** Jimmy pitched our final game of the season and won - this qualified us for a spot at the "round the clock" 60 team tournament held by the National Baseball Congress Summer League World Series in Wichita on the first and second week of August 2006.

While in Wichita, Jimmy and I met many scouts that saw Jimmy pitch during the summer in and around Kansas. One scout told Jimmy and I that **Noble was a "Cuckoo Clock"** and the best thing for Jimmy to do was to ask Noble for a release and change schools. He said Noble is notorious for doing what he does to his players and if Jimmy ever wants to continue up to the next level that Jimmy better leave Noble and U of H right now! He said that Jimmy needs and must be seen by the scouts pitching continuous innings to even have the slightest chance to ever be drafted. He went on to say if Jimmy continued to get batters out he would get looked at but with Noble pitching him three innings a season it would not happen! He said playing for Noble would not do Jimmy any justice whatsoever and for Jimmy to get out as quick as he could. **SADLY, WE DID NOT LISTEN!**

Also, at this time, Jimmy was asked to play ball at UNO (University of New Orleans) along with two other players who were sick of Noble's nonsense and left U of H that same year. These two former U of H players, Stephen Whalen, a pitcher and Mark McGonigle, an outfielder, both left U of H and went to UNO in 2007. They were both starters at UNO and they both played all the time. One day in a game, Noble (pulling one of his antics and trying to prove something) put one of his favorites (who had no business there) in McGonigle's right field position. The joke was on Noble because Noble's favorite misplayed two balls, two runs came in and we lost the game. After the game was over and upset with Noble's BS, McGonigle asked Noble if he could be released when the season was

over. Noble being Noble, told McGonigle to go clean out his locker and threw him off the team immediately. McGonigle was drafted last year (2008) to the Mets and Stephen Whalen who only pitched a total of only **5.2 innings** for Noble in 2006 was UNO's top starting pitcher (he had best ERA in 07 and 2nd best in 08) and is now playing for the Sussex Skyhawks in the Independent League.

Note* UNO is also a D1 school and finished ahead of U of H in the RPI index rankings both those years! **AND NOBLE SAT THESE GUYS???** **WHAT AN IDIOT!!!!** **THIS ONLY GOES TO PROVE THAT NOBLE CANNOT RECOGNIZE TALENT!**

Sadly, Jimmy did not want to leave U of H and kept falling for Noble's nonsense. Jimmy thought that because he was now a sophomore and had such a great summer being a starter with the Liberal BJ's in Kansas that Noble would use him more the next year . . . What a mistake! Noble should have been a real man and told Jimmy that he was never going to start at U of H, and if he ever wanted to be a starter that Jimmy might want to change schools. Instead, Noble continued to lead Jimmy on like he did the entire 4 years by telling Jimmy after he comes in from the mound after a good outing that Jimmy was going to start getting the ball more.

Jimmy's Sophomore Year "2007"

Same stuff for Jimmy, he never started a game - he would only come in when the bases were loaded and we were

losing. Jimmy was used 32 innings total. Jimmy wondered why Noble let some "select few" relief pitchers load up the bases completely and maybe even knock a run or two in before Noble would even come to the mound for a first visit. Whereas if Jimmy even came close to walking a batter, you would see a catcher and another pitcher running down to the bull pen to warm up. If Jimmy walked someone or if they got a hit - - - Jimmy would be pulled in a split second! Whereas these other "select pitchers" (Noble's favorites) would give up runs and lose the game but Noble acted like no big deal. At the very next game . . . there were those same pitchers - pitching again!

On May 17th, 2007, The Cougars were at home playing Southern Miss. At the time we were getting beat 6 - 0 and our pitchers were struggling. In the 8th inning, Jimmy was brought in to pitch for a pitcher who gave up a few runs. Jimmy came in and struck out the side ([See Video](#)). After the game, we were waiting for Jimmy near the tennis courts. Jimmy came out and had an ice wrap on his arm. Just then one of Southern Miss's coaches was walking by toward his bus. He saw Jimmy with the ice wrap on and asked Jimmy why didn't they start him? **He said we could NOT hit you!** Of course this made Jimmy happy. Once again, Jimmy pitching well did not matter to Noble. Noble still started his favorites and brought Jimmy in only when there was no one else left. Noble led Jimmy to believe again that Jimmy was going to get the ball more his Junior year. Jimmy was still falling for Noble's nonsense but I did not!

Note* Jimmy has always worn #8 on his uniform since T-Ball. Jimmy has always felt it was his lucky number and asked for it on every team he played on. Knowing that a senior player (Dustin Kingsbury #8), would be leaving the next season, Jimmy asked Noble if he could get #8 for his Junior year and Noble told Jimmy "OK." Noble told Jimmy to remind him, so Jimmy sent an e-mail reminder to all three coaches Noble, Blount and Allen when the season was over. He then sent a second e-mail reminder in the summer (July) and he sent a third e-mail reminder just before school began (3rd week of August). Much to Jimmy's surprise on the first day of school, Jimmy noticed that #8 had been assigned to another new player. Jimmy went to Coach Noble and asked why he wasn't able to get #8? Noble said that Jimmy could have it but it would cost \$100.00 (which Jimmy paid him in cash)! How could Noble do this to Jimmy and live with himself?

**DOES NOBLE NEED MONEY THIS BAD? - - - HE IS
A SNAKE!**

Jimmy's Sophomore Summer

After burning our bridges at the Cape, Jimmy played summer ball a few weeks in the Texas League in Duncanville, Texas for the Duncanville Deputies. Again, Coach Blount told Jimmy that's where Noble wanted Jimmy to play. This team was a joke. It did not have a catcher (no joke) and had horrible players. Only 5 or 6 games were played because it had rained for 6 weeks so Jimmy left the team and came back home to Houston. We

were leaving Texas and going back up to the Cape and see if Jimmy could play or sub with a team. When Noble learned that Jimmy quit and came back to Houston, Noble called Jimmy's cell phone and left a message that said "Jimmy come see me immediately." Scared to death, Jimmy went to see Noble and Noble asked Jimmy why did he quit after Noble stuck his neck out to get Jimmy on this team. Stuck his neck out? Lamar Little League could have beaten that team! A few weeks later the team folded.

Jimmy's Junior Year "2008"

Relying on what Noble told Jimmy the previous season (that he was going to get the ball more) Jimmy was very excited for this year to begin mainly because it was his Junior year. Sadly once again, Jimmy had a total of only 19 appearances with only 24 innings. During this time a few pro scouts who knew Jimmy, were at U of H scouting. They would come up to me and ask why Jimmy wasn't throwing his knuckleball anymore? I told them that Noble told Jimmy to stop throwing it a couple of years back. They would all shake their heads and say the same thing - - - "that Noble was an idiot and he ruined many good players." They said for Jimmy to keep practicing and throwing the knuckleball regardless of what Noble thinks. They said Jimmy's knuckle ball was "killer" (which I thought it was also), they also said why doesn't Noble let Jimmy do what he does best and get people out regardless of what it takes? But Noble wants to be the big fish in his little pond and control everyone! One thing did happen though - Jimmy did have his first collegiate start this year at the Conference

USA Championship Game in New Orleans on May 25, 2008. Jimmy pitched almost 3 innings when he gave up a run and was pulled. Thanks to Chase Dempsay, we went on to win the game and became Conference USA Champions. Once again with Noble's Napoleon Complex and Noble trying to show how powerful he was, (because Jimmy gave up that run at the Conference Tournament) Noble did not pitch Jimmy again in the entire playoffs until the last out of the last game that we lost to Texas A&M on June 2, 2008. Noble pitched everyone and anyone he could find to pitch other than Jimmy for whatever reason he had in his mini-mind. He once again started someone who gave up home runs and lost the game for us only two days before. He even used a player that was red-shirted to pitch for us before using Jimmy. We were losing 13 - 5, with the bases loaded and Texas A & M's best hitter Kyle Colligan up to bat (who already had homered twice that game). Noble had absolutely no one left in the bullpen so he had to put Jimmy in. **I among many, honestly believed that Noble wanted Jimmy to fail on live Television. But, Jimmy did not fail! After only 5 pitches he caught Colligan looking on 2 strikes and had him ground out to stop the bleeding and end the game!**

Jimmy's Senior Year "2009"

Because of known weak hitting this year, Jimmy was finally asked to hit at this past fall and spring's practices. Jimmy told me he had done well during the week at the closed practices and I personally saw him hit two home runs over the scoreboard and one home run over the trees in

right field one Saturday. Jimmy also bounced a few off the dead center fence. Jimmy was one of the top 3 players with the most RBI's in the fall and spring practices. The coaches told Jimmy that he would most likely DH or play right field. They also told him that the coaches were expecting over 30 home runs between Jimmy and Kankle this season! Two days before the season opener, they were having one last scrimmage practice game. Jimmy hit a rocket down the 3rd base line and knocked in 2 runs. Jimmy stopped at second. The next player struck out to end the scrimmage game. When Jimmy came running in from second base, Coaches Stockton and Garza said "good hitting" to Jimmy. As Jimmy was walking toward the dugout Noble called all the hitters over to talk to them. When Noble was through talking, as Jimmy started to walk away, Noble called Jimmy over and said "Jimmy, you are not going to hit anymore this year, you are just going to pitch - that is where you can help us the most!" Jimmy was floored because he thought he just batted so well and knocked in two runs and to top it all off just five minutes earlier both assistant coaches congratulated Jimmy on how well he did at hitting. But I guess if Jimmy did well the fans might wonder why Jimmy did not hit the in past 3 years and this would make Noble look like the idiot he is! When Jimmy called me and told what Noble said I could tell in his voice he was very upset.

Now be honest . . . with the way U of H hit this past season don't you think we could have used another good bat in our line up?

2009 Appearances

1.) Jimmy's first appearance Friday, February 20th 2009 vs Kansas State

We opened this year on a Friday night against Kansas State. At the time we were losing pretty badly 10 - 2. **Jimmy was told by Noble earlier that day that Jimmy was going to be first in relief on Saturday's game (the next day).** The Cougars were going into the top of 9th inning and **had already used 4 pitchers.** Noble was upset that our current pitcher was struggling so he yells to Jimmy "Jimmy go get ready" Jimmy, in surprise runs down to warm up on the bull pen mound and is ice cold (Jimmy was not ready at all - because he thought he was pitching the next day). After only **4 practice pitches** he is brought in to pitch. Jimmy needs time to warm up. (especially because it was a very cold night). Noble could care less about Jimmy or his arm, he just wanted to get the game over with. Jimmy first faced the 9th batter followed by the **top of the order.** Jimmy struggled and gave up hits and runs and **finally** **after he warmed up Jimmy went 1, 2, 3** and got the side out all in a row with one strikeout. **(Jimmy's ERA was 54.00, with only 1 inning pitched this killed Jimmy's ERA - Noble likes to do this so he has leverage over you)** If it was not for this game Jimmy would have had one of the best ERA's on the team! Check out the stats! **Noble told Jimmy because of his ERA is the reason Jimmy did not pitch more this year. What a joke because there were pitchers on the team who had worse ERA's this year but**

had a chance to lower them because Noble used them more!

2.) Jimmy's second appearance Saturday, February 28th, 2009 vs UC Irvine - (Minute Maid Park)

Jimmy came in relief for a pitcher who was struggling in the 9th inning with only 1 out against UC Irvine. Jimmy faced the **meat of the order (third and fourth batters)**. Jimmy **struck out** the first batter and had the 2nd batter **ground out!**

3.) Jimmy's third appearance Friday, March 6th, 2009 vs Cal Poly

Jimmy came in to pitch the 9th inning. **Jimmy struck out all 3 batters in a row!**

4.) Jimmy's fourth appearance Friday, March 13th, 2009 vs. Pacific

With only 1 out Jimmy came in relief for a pitcher who was struggling in the 9th. Jimmy faced the **top of the order**. Jimmy got 1 out (**which should have been a double play**), then hit a batter and was pulled. **None of Jimmy's runs came in.**

5.) Jimmy's fifth appearance Sunday, March 22nd, 2009 vs. UAB (Conference Game)

Noble had Jimmy completely **warm up the first time** in the 4th inning and did not put him in. Then Noble had Jimmy completely **warm up a second time** in the 6th

inning and did not put him in. Once again, Noble had Jimmy **warm up a 3rd time** in the 7th inning along with 2 other pitchers. Noble used the first pitcher in the 7th & 8th inning and used the second pitcher in the top of 9th inning. Noble then puts Jimmy in to pitch for the 2nd pitcher who was struggling. Jimmy came in to face the **top of the order. Jimmy got all 3 outs with 2 strikeouts!** (Jimmy told me that night that Noble is ruining his arm and his arm was dead after **warming up 3 times!**)

Incident on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 vs. Sam Houston State

Recently, a few scouts told Jimmy that because Noble does not pitch him that most likely no ball club would ever draft him this year because of that. They said there are many MLB or Independent league teams that are always looking for lefties who can get people out. They went on to tell Jimmy to be sure he keeps his arm strong for tryouts after U of H baseball is over this spring and before the draft. Remember, at this time **Jimmy was NOT USED in the last 12 GAMES.** After listening to Noble's lies for the past 3 weeks (Noble telling Jimmy he was coming in for relief the very next game and to be ready to pitch), Jimmy decided to do what he had to do on his own in order to keep his arm exercised. Jimmy said that Noble never cared or even watched Jimmy throw his practice bullpens anymore. Jimmy saw that Noble would use anyone he could find before he would use Jimmy and Jimmy's arm needed exercise so after the 3rd week passed without being used in a game, Jimmy took it upon himself and threw a complete

bullpen on Monday, April 13th. The very next day On April 14, 2009, the Cougars were again getting trounced for the second time against the Bearcats in Huntsville. After our starter was pulled, Noble used 3 more pitchers that were not getting the job done and the game was too far gone so Noble does what he usually does in this situation and told Jimmy to go get warm. Noble (the imbecile) knew - (because Coach Stockton told him) that Jimmy just threw a **COMPLETE BULLPEN** the day before. When Jimmy reminded Noble of that, Noble retaliated and said that Jimmy let his team down (they were losing 11- 2) and Jimmy was not going to Memphis this coming weekend! This is not a normal coaches behavior. Noble acts like a child! Did you ever see him in the dugout when we are losing? He reads a book and pouts! It is common knowledge that if anyone confronts Noble, about anything whatsoever, they will never play again at U of H, Jimmy knows this but also knows that there are only 3 weeks left for him so what does Jimmy have to lose? The very next morning (Wednesday), Jimmy went to see Noble to ask what the heck is going on and why isn't Noble playing him? At the meeting, Jimmy asked Noble why he is not playing him when Jimmy has done quite well in his last 3 outings? Jimmy said Noble just sat slouched back in his chair really cocky and said "**Jimmy, I don't think you deserve to pitch more**" then Jimmy replied to Noble "**so you think I am not good when I have one of the best strikeout ratio to batters faced records on the team?" Jimmy said this made Noble upset and Noble could not come up with a legitimate answer so Noble said to Jimmy "if you ask me that one more time this meeting is over." Noble did not**

have an answer because he knows that what he is doing to Jimmy is wrong!

6.) Jimmy's sixth appearance Tuesday, April 21st 2009 vs. Steven F. Austin

It has been a month since Jimmy last pitched. Jimmy was sent down to warm up 2 times. Once in the 5th inning and the second time in the 6th inning. In the 7th inning we were losing 6 - 3 and there were two runners on base. Jimmy was brought in and told that there was a base open, so pitch around this guy and hopefully get a double play with the next hitter because we are not going to let him beat us. Jimmy walked the only batter he faced pitching carefully to the hitter like he was told. Noble called time and immediately pulled Jimmy out of the game. No runs scored. **ONCE AGAIN** - Why is it that some of "Noble's favorites" can give up hits and runs in the first few innings and Noble will let them stay in no matter how badly they do. **IT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE** that Noble will not even warm up another pitcher until the game is completely out of control. But when Jimmy gets to pitch, Noble usually sends down another pitcher and has him warm up also contemplating Jimmy's failure! How do you think this makes a pitcher feel? Knowing that one wrong move and he is gone. Do you think he feels comfortable knowing that if he walks someone or God Forbid gives up a hit, it will be another month before he ever gets a chance to pitch again? After the game many parents came up to me and asked what does Noble have against your son? Once one parent broke the ice and started venting about Noble, many other

parents followed suit and started saying that they never saw anything happen like that in their life (referring to Jimmy getting pulled after walking one batter). Many added that Noble was a terrible coach and how he should leave the program. They said he cannot make the team come together like a team. One parent said that instead of the infielders feeling comfortable (knowing that their spots are secure) and wanting the ball to come to them, they are scared to death that they may make an error and because of this they hope the ball goes elsewhere.

7.) Jimmy's seventh appearance Wednesday, April 22nd' 2009 vs. Lamar

We were losing again 9 - 2 and Jimmy was brought in to pitch in the 7th inning. Jimmy retired the side and **struck out 1 batter**. The next inning (8th) Jimmy retired the side and **struck out 2 batters**. Jimmy told me his arm was dead from warming up and pitching just the night before. Jimmy did not want to tell Noble that his arm was dead (because of the consequences Jimmy paid last week for saying that - Not going to Memphis) so he started the 9th inning went in got two outs and then gave up 3 hits and 3 runs. He was pulled and the next pitcher came in and got the last out. Even though Jimmy gave up 3 runs he was happy that he pitched 2.2 innings.

8.) Jimmy's eighth appearance Wednesday, April 29th' 2009 at McNeese .

In the eighth inning a pitcher was struggling. With only 1 out Jimmy was brought in to pitch. **Jimmy got the**

remaining two outs and ended the inning. Jimmy was not allowed back to pitch the 9th.

9.) Jimmy's ninth appearance Tuesday, May 5' 2009 vs. McNeese at Cougar Field.

Jimmy was brought in to pitch in the 6th inning. **After only 10 pitches, Jimmy retired the side 1-2-3.** It so happened that we scored that inning and Jimmy got the win.

10.) Jimmy's tenth appearance Saturday, May 9' 2009 vs. ECU at Cougar Field. (Conference Game)

We were getting beat pretty bad and in the eighth inning a pitcher was struggling. With only 1 out Jimmy was brought in to pitch. Jimmy came in to face the **top of the order.** **Jimmy got the remaining two outs and ended the inning.** Again, Jimmy was not allowed back in to pitch the 9th.

11.) Jimmy's eleventh appearance Thursday, May 14' 2009 at UCF. (Conference Game)

Jimmy was brought in to pitch in the 8th inning to face the **top of the order.** The first batter flied out. **The second batter struck out looking and the 3rd batter reached first on a throwing error.** The next batter walked and the next batter got a shallow hit right over 3rd base. 1 run scored (**not earned**) and the runner was picked off at 3rd. We lost once again 8-4.

12.) Jimmy's twelfth and last appearance at U of H was on Thursday, May 20, 2009 at Hattiesburg, MS vs. UAB. (1st Playoff Game)

In the seventh inning as usual we were losing again 7 - 1 when Jimmy was brought in to pitch. The **bases were loaded with only 1 out**. On Jimmy's 3rd pitch he had the first batter he faced ground into a double play and the inning was over. Jimmy returned in the 8th inning and had the first batter pop up for the first out and had the second batter ground out. The next batter hit the ball to 3rd base, it went into the 3rd baseman's glove and came out. This was clearly an error but it was ruled a hit. (even the announcer on the CBS College TV Broadcast said it should have been an error.) The next batter doubled to left center and Jimmy was pulled. **If it was one of Noble's favorites that this happened to, they would have still been out there pitching until at least 5 more runs came in! You know it and I know it!!!!**

TRYING TO SET JIMMY UP FOR FAILURE

After reviewing all of Jimmy's appearances above, one would think that without a doubt Noble was trying to set Jimmy up for failure. It could not be a coincidence that out of **12** appearances Jimmy just happened to face the **TOP** or the **MEAT** of the order **7** times! **Jimmy only pitched part of or only 1 inning at a time!** It wasn't like Jimmy was pitching numerous innings. **It seems really strange that this just happened to be this way! NOBLE DID THIS**

ON PURPOSE SO JIMMY WOULD FAIL . . . JUST LIKE NOBLE DID TO JIMMY AT LAST YEARS FINAL GAME IN COLLEGE STATION, but Jimmy DID NOT! This year (2009) Jimmy was allowed to pitch in only 3 Conference games . . . What is the reason for this? Jimmy's ERA in Conference is 0.00 ! WHY DIDN'T NOBLE PITCH JIMMY MORE?

FUZZY STATS

Lets face it . . .

For the first few weeks of the 2009 season all of our pitchers got hit pretty badly, a few were hit worse than others but most of them did not do so well. But as time went on and we were beating weak teams (Texas Pan Am) Noble would put in his favorites in to try to lower their ERA's closer to acceptable numbers. He let Jimmy's ERA stay high (from the first game) so Jimmy could not complain why was he not pitching. These are the sneaky things Noble does to mess with you. Before it actually happened to us in Jimmy's freshman year, we were told that Noble did these things but we really did not believe it until now. They even mess with the stats. A hit or an error really depends on who is batting and who on the team would be charged with an error. A pitcher could make a batter hit 3 easy plays to the first baseman and the first baseman (instead of stepping on first to get the out) immediately throws the ball home (in order to not let the runner on 3rd base score) and launches it over the catcher's head. You

know as well as I that this is a fielders choice. But at Baylor 2 years ago the first baseman did that 3 times in a row - he messed up and never made the out. Of course Noble blames Jimmy for loading the bases and not the first baseman so he pulls Jimmy. The next pitcher gets shelled and Jimmy gets charged with the runs that he put on base that should have been easy outs! But a few games later, the stats guy did not charge runs to one of "Noble's favorite pitchers" that the same exact situation happened to at Cougar field. When we asked the stats guy why that happened he said "it was a tough decision." **It is not a tough decision - It all depends on who you are!** Next time you see the girl who did this years stats ask her how many times she had to change a pitcher's losses this season and give them to the correct pitcher who actually had the loss.

QUESTIONS

Why does Noble do these things?

Why do all Noble's former players hate him?

Why do Noble's own coaches hate him? Why are they all scared to death of him?

U of H's Freshman Baseball Class of 2005 consisted of 19 new players and only 4 players out of the 19 were still at U of H last year 2008! Why were there only 4 seniors remaining? Why did 15 players leave the program? NOBLE IS WHY THEY LEFT!

On March 11, 2008 - The Cougars were playing SFA at home. In the fifth inning, Chris Wright was brought in to pitch. Chris was pitching the game of his life! Chris had faced and retired all 12 batters in a row. No Hits, No Walks, No Nothing! Chris also had 8 strikeouts in those 4 innings. 8K's in 12 batters - NOT BAD! Guess what "SUPER COACH NOBLE" did? Instead of letting Chris finish the last (9th) inning, he brings in another pitcher and we almost lost the game! If someone (especially a pitcher) is on a roll let them continue - don't pull them! WHY DOES NOBLE DO THESE THINGS?

JUST A FEW PLAYERS WHO LEFT U of H BECAUSE OF NOBLE

Why did TCU's short stop, **Stuart Musslewhite** (2004) leave U of H and go to TCU and is now in the Pros (Orioles)? **He couldn't stand Noble!**

At TCU - Stuart batted .315 with 5 HR and 34 RBI's. (Stuart was drafted to the Baltimore Orioles)

Why did Tulane's catcher, **Jared Dyer** leave U of H (2005), and go to San Jac and then on to Tulane? **Hated Noble! (Noble would not play him!)**

At Tulane - Jared played in every game and batted .303 with 6 Home Runs and 39 RBI's.

Why did outfielder Tom Williams (2006) leave U of H? Hated Noble because Noble would not play him! Noble never gave Tom a chance to shine, Tom was always scared to death thinking that God Forbid if he struck out, he would be on bench for a month!

At Concordia, Tom played in every game with 21 Home Runs last year. This year (2009) Tom had 14 Home Runs and a .393 Batting average!

Did we have anyone on our team that hit this well in the past 4 years? I don't think so . . .

Why did outfielder Mark McGonigle leave U of H and go to UNO? Hated Noble! (Noble would not play him!)

Mark is now in the Pros (Mets).

At UNO, Mark played in every game hit .294 with 8 Home Runs and 46 RBI's last year (2008)

Note* UNO finished ahead of U of H in the rankings both those (2007 & 2008) years!

Why did **pitcher Stephen Whalen** leave U of H and go to UNO? **Hated Noble! (Noble would not play him!)**

In 2006, Stephen had a total of 5.2 innings! **ALL YEAR LONG!**

At UNO in 2007, Stephen pitched 67.1 innings and was the Ace with 9 wins and a 3.61 ERA and had the 2nd best ERA in (2008)

THIS ONCE AGAIN PROVES NOBLE CANNOT RECOGNIZE TALENT. (Stephen wasn't one of Noble's favorites)

Stephen is now playing for the **Sussex Skyhawks** in the Independent League.

Note* UNO finished ahead of U of H in the rankings both those (2007 & 2008) years!

Why did **Luis Flores (2007) "Freshman All-American,"** leave and go to **Oklahoma State** and is now in the Pros? **(Cubs) Didn't like Noble!**

TOO MUCH GOOD TALENT GONE TO WASTE . . .

ON THIS YEAR'S TEAM (2009) WE HAD A RELIEF (CLOSER) PITCHER WHO FINISHED THE SEASON QUITE WELL AND WAS JUST DRAFTED IN THE THIRD ROUND, HE TOO STARTED OFF VERY SHAKY LIKE MANY OTHER PITCHERS DID, BUT NOBLE KEPT USING HIM AND HE GOT BETTER!

YOU CAN'T GET BETTER IF YOU DON'T PLAY!

COULD THIS ALL BE JUST A COINCIDENCE OR IS NOBLE A COACH WHO CANNOT RECOGNIZE TALENT?

NOBLE'S HEAD GAMES

Why doesn't Noble play Carlos Reyes? He has had only 7 appearances all season with 3 hits. Not too shabby! What doesn't Noble like about Carlos' .429 batting average? He hits the ball and makes things happen half the time he gets up to bat. Why not let him play? Hmmmmmmmm, maybe because his cousin is Luis Flores ("Freshman All American") who is now with the Chicago Cubs organization left U of H because of Noble and went to Oklahoma State! So Noble has to get his revenge one way or another and take it out on Luis's family! In a situation like this Noble should take the high road and forget what happened in the past. But No, Noble has to show his power! Why? Where does it get him? For what purpose I will never know.

NOBLE'S FOUL MOUTH

These are some of the things I was told that Noble said to the pitchers when Noble came out to the mound to replace them after they did not pitch so well.

- 1.) "You probably just pitched your last time at U of H."
- 2.) "If you want to continue playing baseball, your best bet is to change schools!"
- 3.) "You have two pitches, - A ball and right down the dick!"
- 4.) "Give me the f***ing ball and get off my f***ing mound!"

These quotes were told to me by many pitchers who were making fun of Noble one day. **They can't be all making this stuff up!**

PITCHING

This has gone on for the entire 4 years Jimmy has been there and has gone on for many years before that. No offense to any other pitchers on the team but there was only ONE pitcher in the entire 4 years that Jimmy attended U of H that could come in and shut down the other team time after time and that was Brad Lincoln. We were told in previous years there were a few other pitchers that did that also but not in the past 4 years.

From what I have seen in the past 4 years at U of H. Every single pitcher has done well and at times those same pitchers have done badly. For some unknown reason, Noble does not see this and thinks he should use the same old favorites to start and to relieve time after time.

What I will never understand is that Noble forgives (his favorites) and punishes the ones he does not like by making them sit. Regardless of how bad Noble's favorites do they will be back out there on the mound to start or in relief the very next game.

Noble never learns from his mistakes. He expects different results by using the same ingredients. **ONLY A TRUE IDIOT THINKS THAT WAY !**

During these past two seasons my stomach would be in knots and turn in disgust when I would see some of Jimmy's friends (pitchers on other opposing teams) pitching against us. Some of these pitchers are the same boys whom Jimmy played within the past on the Angels and on the college summer teams. **These players were never ever used!** And here they are now - **STARTING AGAINST US and BEATING US.** They must have had a really good laugh knowing that Jimmy who was always the better pitcher and player than they ever were . . . and here they are starting and beating U of H while Jimmy sits in the dugout! Then I would hear from the crowd of fans in our stands when we were getting beat by these pitchers . . . "Wow this pitcher is good" I am not trying to be mean but - - - **YOU DID NOT HAVE TO BE GOOD TO BEAT US!**

Last May, Noble told the pitchers that in order to be effective you have to throw at least 90 MPH!

Wrong - we have been beat many times the past 4 years by pitchers who throw in the low 80's and throw junk!

Two recent examples:

**Mark Haines RHP/Rice University - March 18, 2009.
We got smoked 8 - 1**

**Shay Crawford LHP/University of Alabama
Birmingham - May 20, 2009. We got smoked 8 - 3**

PUNISHMENT FOR PLAYERS

On March 18, 2009, The Cougars were playing Rice at Cougar field. Our 3rd baseman, Codey Morehouse was at bat and to avoid being pegged backed up out of the way of the pitch. The next day at practice he was told to stand at the plate and do not move. Then he was hit on purpose many times by thrown baseballs. Codey had bruises all over him. Incidentally, Codey did not ever start again since that game because Noble had to blame someone for the 8 - 1 loss.

NOBLE WILL NEVER GET THE BETTER PLAYERS

Noble will never get the quality of players that Rice has because of his reputation and his reputation alone not U of

H or it's facility! A baseball player named Randal Grichuk attended most every home game at U of H since he was 5 years old. His dream was to come to U of H and play ball. At the 2004 Little League World Series in Williamsport Pennsylvania, Randal won the Most Valuable Player award from 8 States across the U.S. and 8 Foreign Countries (16 Teams Total). Since he was a young boy you could always see Randal at Cougar Field jumping the fences and chasing foul balls. Randal was just now drafted out of High School in the **1st Round** to the Anaheim Angels. Randal said that Noble did not show him that much affection and acted like it was really no big deal if he came to U of H or not. At that same time other colleges were going crazy to try to sign Randal. Also, Randal witnessed first hand what Noble did to Jimmy so he really didn't trust Noble either. Because of Noble, U of H lost Randal and he signed with the University of Arizona in Tucson. I guess because of being drafted in the first round this was no loss to U of H after all. Again, I guess Noble could not recognize how great Randal's talent truly was!

Within the last few weeks at U of H, some scouts approached me and asked if Jimmy was hurt? When I told them "No, Noble is just being Noble" and does not like Jimmy, they all say the same thing to me "**don't worry . . . many pitchers who are now in the pros were often hidden in college bullpens by no talent - idiot coaches!**"

It is a shame that a college head coach can make you or break you. If he plays you and you do well, the scouts are banging at your door. If he doesn't play you and does what

he did to my son Jimmy, **(even though Jimmy's strike out to batters faced ratio is among the top 4 pitchers on the team)** your baseball career is over! Someone should look into this and stop Noble from ruining any more players. Why keep him? He is not winning! This guy is a loser!

If they can't fire Noble because of his contract and U of H has to keep him, let Noble do the laundry or work the concessions!

The reason I posted this on a web site is because anytime someone Google's the name "University of Houston Baseball" or "Rayner Noble" I want them and their parents to read this and decide for themselves if they **REALLY** want to come here with a coach like Noble!

Secondly, the reason I explained all this in detail was to show that I am not just some parent upset that my son is not playing. I want to protect all the future baseball players that are even thinking of coming to play for U of H. **Do Not Come Here While Rayner Noble Remains The Head Coach!**

This is what happened to my son Jimmy and how he was treated while playing for Coach Noble at the University of Houston. I sincerely hope this never happens to anyone again.

Jimmy learned very early this season (2009-Senior Season) that regardless of what Noble told Jimmy about getting the ball more this year that nothing was ever going to change. Jimmy said that Noble acted the same way he did the past 3

years and was all pumped up on the new guys. **Jimmy has never been a quitter, but this year he told me if it wasn't for the assistant coaches (Stockton, Tully and Garza) Jimmy would have quit!**

STARTING THIS SEASON OFF WITH A (3 - 14) RECORD WILL TAKE THE WIND OUT OF ANY SAIL AND I SALUTE THE COUGAR PLAYERS WHO HUNG IN THERE AND MADE THE BEST OF IT!

I TOLD MY SON JIMMY TO NEVER GIVE UP . . .

"When I was 24 years old and first started my business, I knew deep down in my heart that I had invented a good product (vehicle anti theft device) and I could do well with it. But sadly, there were numerous negative people around (bankers - car dealers, etc.) who were much like Noble (clueless idiots). On my sales presentation to them, they told me that my anti theft device would never catch on and sell because there were so many better products already on the market and that my product was really "**not that good**". They also said that people carry car insurance, so why would anyone need an anti theft device? One car dealer went on to say that he knew all this because he had a "degree in marketing". At this time of my life, I was completely broke and I did not need to hear any negative talk. My Mom did what Moms do and told me not to listen to these people, she said just stick with what I had invented and keep going. After years of never giving up, I made my product one of the most well known anti theft devices in the world. (Google - "best anti theft device" and see what

comes up) I was finally able to get my revenge and the last laugh one Sunday while I was at Sugar Land Airport. Some friends and I were going to the Fair Grounds (horse races) in New Orleans in my plane. My plane was already pulled up on the ramp and while we were walking toward my plane, I noticed some people looking inside my plane and admiring it. As I got closer, I recognized one person in this group. It was the same owner of a popular car dealership (now bankrupt and closed) in Houston. This was the same idiot that told me that my anti theft device was "**not that good**" (like Noble said about Jimmy) and would never sell. Of course in his mind, I had shorts on, so with that mentality I couldn't possibly own a plane. He looked at me and said the plane was really nice and asked if I knew who it belonged to? I told him it was mine and I bought it with the money I made from that "piece of crap anti theft device" that he told me would never sell because he had a "degree in marketing". He looked at me confused at first and then remembered and recognized me and tried to shake hands. He never knew how deeply he hurt me back in 1976. He said he was waiting for his plane to be pulled out of the hanger. The airport crew finally towed his plane up on the tarmac next to mine. As he was getting in his "piece of crap plane" (I could not help myself) I looked over at him and asked if he and his friends were going to do some crop dusting? He gave me a go to hell look! "**Revenge is sweet!**" Like myself . . . my son Jimmy will prevail in baseball and get the last laugh on Noble.

THE REASON FOR THIS WEBSITE IS . . .

IT IS TOO LATE FOR MY SON, BUT I DO NOT WANT NOBLE TO BE ABLE TO DO WHAT HE DID TO MY SON AND SO MANY FORMER U of H PLAYERS. SOMEONE HAS TO TAKE THE BULL BY THE HORNS AND PUT AN END TO NOBLE'S ANTICS. I DID THIS IN LITTLE LEAGUE AND STOPPED DADDY BALL (AT LEAST FOR THE TIME WHILE I WAS PRESIDENT).

WITH THIS POSTING I HOPE THE NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR OR SOMEONE ELSE HIGHER UP IN ADMINISTRATION WILL SERIOUSLY LOOK INTO THIS MATTER, VERIFY WHAT I HAVE STATED AND FIRE NOBLE.

WHAT NOBLE DOES TO PLAYERS AT U of H HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR MANY YEARS. MANY EXCELLENT PLAYERS HAVE FALLEN THROUGH THE CRACKS AND PLAY VICTIM TO NOBLE AND HIS MOODS. MANY A GOOD PLAYER FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER HAS BEEN OVERLOOKED BY THIS NO-TALENT HEAD COACH. MOST PLAYERS AND FAMILIES ACCEPT IT AND LEAVE QUIETLY . . . BUT I AM NOT - I DON'T WANT ANYMORE VICTIMS COMING TO U of H AND FALLING FOR NOBLE'S BALONEY ANY LONGER.

IF WE HAD SUPERSTARS PLAYING AND JIMMY DID NOT PLAY, I WOULD UNDERSTAND AND NOT COMPLAIN . . . BUT WE DID NOT. THE FEW PITCHERS THAT NOBLE HAPPENED TO LIKE,

**JUST GOT MANY MORE CHANCES TO PITCH
AND GET BETTER.**

With the final stats tabulated. Jimmy finished among the top 5 pitchers on the team in strike-out to batters faced ratio.

What was the reason why Jimmy was not used more? Jimmy did not do bad at the practices. There is no legitimate reason!

It is simply NOBLE had an agenda and did not like Jimmy. I saw this happen before in 2003, when I was the President of Lamar Little League. Some people did not want Randal Grichuk (1st Round of 2009 MLB Draft) on the 12 year old Little League All Star Team because he was only 11 years old. They used the excuse that Randal was not as good as the 12 year olds. Sadly, that was not the reason at all. They (much like what Noble did to Jimmy) just simply did not like Randal and did not want him in the spotlight because they knew he could shine!

IN CLOSING . . . In Saturdays, May 23, 2009 edition of the Houston Chronicle, Noble was being interviewed after our 2nd loss and elimination from the tournament. Noble was quoted as saying about our final game against Rice "You got to do damage against them when you can, and **we just didn't have the guys who could step up there and make the difference**" -

Whose fault is that? Bad recruiting? Bad scouting? The fault is on Noble because he can't recognize talent that he may already have on the team but is too stupid to use!

NO ONE SHOULD HAVE TO PUT THEIR FUTURE IN THE HANDS OF THIS MADMAN. IF NOBLE DECIDES NOT TO PITCH OR PLAY YOU, WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT? NOTHING AND NOBLE KNOWS THIS. THE SCOUTS TOLD JIMMY THAT THEY CANNOT DRAFT SOMEONE IF THEY NEVER SEE THEM PLAY MORE THAN A FEW INNINGS ALL YEAR.

**RECRUITS: TAKE IT FROM US, YOU
DO NOT WANT NOBLE
CONTROLLING YOUR FUTURE.**

**I am not just ranting, these are facts,
records and stats. Please check them out
yourself.**

**Note* Remember it is not
SLANDER if it's TRUE!**

**NO ONE ON THIS EARTH IS GOING TO DO WHAT
NOBLE DID TO MY SON AND GET AWAY WITH
IT!**

Sincerely,

Vinny Raviele



NOBLE TANTRUM on MAY, 2, 2008