

January 5, 2016

To Whom it May Concern,

As a former major leaguer, with the Cincinnati Reds, Colorado Rockies, and Montreal Expos, I have been passionate about helping our youth develop self-esteem and discipline not only on the baseball field but also in all phases of a child's life. A goal of mine has been to see more players emerge from the Laredo and surrounding areas into college and professional levels. As a result of the Freddie Benavides baseball camps that have been held during the last ten years, there have been forty-one players that have gone on to play college baseball and one was selected in the 2013 Major League baseball draft. Last year I was blessed with the opportunity to partner up with Tano Tijerina and several Major League scouts to host our very own first ever showcase where our South Texas talent will be evaluated by the best in the game.

This January 16th, local and surrounding area high school baseball players who have displayed a talent for pitching, fielding, and hitting will participate in an elite "invitation only" baseball showcase in Laredo for the second year in a row. Major League baseball and college scouts will be here to take a close look at top talent from all over South Texas including Laredo. Because this showcase will be free of charge to all participants, I am humbly asking for your contribution to help offset expenses needed to make this event possible. The expenses will include shirts for the players, equipment for the workout, baseballs, and lodging/travel expenses for professional scouts and college coaches.

I am excited to see this event continue take place because this is the second of many future showcases where our South Texas youth will be evaluated by the best in the game. I sincerely hope that you would consider this request, as I know your generosity will be greatly appreciated by these players whose lives could change forever as a result of this showcase.

Sincerely,

Freddie Benavides
Cincinnati Reds First Base Coach

Major League Scouts

1. Thom Drier - Baltimore Orioles
2. Clint Bowers – LA Dodgers
3. Pat Murphy – Tampa Bay Rays
4. Rudy Vasquez – LA Angels
5. Joe Almaraz – St Louis Cardinals
6. Johnny Almaraz – Philadelphia Phillies (Scouting Director)
7. Justin Lehr – Kansas City Royals
8. Byron Ewing – Cincinnati Reds
9. Darin Vaughan – Atlanta Braves
10. Tim Collinsworth – Boston Red Sox
11. Rusty Pendergrass – Arizona Diamondbacks
12. Steve Riha – Milwaukee Brewers
13. Randy Taylor – Texas Rangers
14. Noel Gonzalez Luna – Houston Astros
15. Mike Esposito – Minnesota Twins
16. Kevin Ellis – Chicago Cubs
17. Matt Lea – Detroit Tigers
18. Stephen Baker – San Diego Padres
19. James Mouton – San Francisco Giants
20. Mark Snipp – Arizona Diamondbacks (Cross Checker)
21. Jeff Edwards – Colorado Rockies
22. Brian Rhees – New York Yankees
23. Craig Smajstrla – MLB Scouting Bureau

Universities

1. Texas A&M Corpus Christi
2. UTSA
3. Texas Southern
4. Texas A&M International
5. Texas A&M University Kingsville
6. Galveston Community College
7. San Jacinto Community College
8. Alvin Community College
9. McLennan Community College
10. Western Texas College
11. Laredo Community College
12. Texas A&M
13. Texas State

14. UTRGV
15. St Mary's University
16. Stephen F Austin