

= Philip Humber =

Philip Gregory Humber (/ ˈmʌr / ; born December 21 , 1982) is an American former professional baseball pitcher . He pitched for the New York Mets , Minnesota Twins , Kansas City Royals , Chicago White Sox , and Houston Astros in seven seasons in Major League Baseball (MLB) . Although he debuted in the major leagues in 2006 and had worked mostly as a starter in the minor leagues , he did not become a regular MLB starter until 2011 .

Humber earned three Texas Little League state championships . He subsequently attended Carthage High School in Carthage , Texas , where he led the baseball team to the state championship game in 2001 , his senior season , winning state Player of the Year honors . He then attended Rice University , where he played college baseball for the Rice Owls baseball team . Humber was the winning pitcher in the clinching game of the 2003 College World Series . He has also represented the United States at the World University Baseball Championship .

The Mets selected Humber with the third overall selection in the 2004 MLB draft . During his minor league career , he underwent ulnar collateral ligament reconstruction , before making his MLB debut with the Mets . It took him several years to regain his ability to throw with the same velocity that he had prior to the injury . After being included in a trade to the Twins for Johan Santana , Humber struggled to establish himself . He spent a year with the Royals organization and was briefly a member of the Oakland Athletics organization , before being claimed on waivers by the White Sox in 2011 , getting an opportunity to pitch in the White Sox ' starting rotation . On April 21 , 2012 , Humber pitched the 21st perfect game in MLB history , defeating the Seattle Mariners .

= = Early life = =

Born in Nacogdoches , Texas , Humber was raised in Carthage , Texas . Living in an area with an abundance of baseball fields , Humber grew up with a batting cage in his backyard . At the age of 11 , Humber visited the Chicago White Sox during spring training in Florida as the guest of Robert Ellis , a family friend of the Humber family , who then was a minor league baseball pitcher for the White Sox .

Carthage was a Texas anomaly , its baseball athletes being the most admired role models rather than its football players . As of 2004 , the Panola County Dixie League teams had won 15 state championships in the preceding 20 years and Humber played for three state champions .

= = Amateur career = =

Humber attended Carthage High School . The Carthage Bulldogs had won the state title in 1990 and been one of the final four teams in the state tournament in 1994 . Humber was promoted from junior varsity midway through his sophomore season . He compiled a 4 ? 0 win ? loss record with a low 1 @. @ 09 earned run average (ERA) . He went 7 ? 2 as a junior , and posted a 13 ? 1 record with a 0 @. @ 90 ERA and 146 strikeouts as a senior . A capable batter , he also had a .371 batting average with six home runs . Humber threw a shutout in the Texas University Interscholastic League Class 4A semifinals against Cedar Park High School in 2001 , his senior season . Although Carthage lost the state championship to Western Hills High School in baseball that year , Humber was named Texas High School Class 4A Player of the Year by the Texas Sports Writers Association . According to former Major League Baseball prospect and East Texas native Alan Move : " Back in high school , he (Humber) threw harder than everyone else and changed speeds pretty well and that 's all you need in high school . "

Humber was drafted by the New York Yankees in the 29th round of the 2001 Major League Baseball draft . As the 875th pick overall , he described himself as " more of a draft @-@ and @-@ follow " prospect . The Yankees made Humber an offer in an attempt to lure him away from his college scholarship , but he did not sign , choosing instead to attend Rice University in order to play college baseball for the Rice Owls baseball team , competing in the Western Athletic Conference (WAC) of NCAA Division I.

At Rice , Humber was coached by Wayne Graham . Humber 's first home appearance at Reckling

Park was in the annual Rice Alumni game in February 2002 . After retiring his first two batters in relief , Humber faced a pair of Major League Baseball players . José Cruz , Jr. bounced the baseball off of the wall in center field and then Lance Berkman hit the ball over the scoreboard . After his inauspicious debut , he became a dominant pitcher during his three college seasons for the Rice Owls , stepping into the nationally ranked Owls ' starting rotation as a freshman . Humber finished his freshman season in 2002 with an 11 ? 1 win ? loss record , a 2 @.@ 78 ERA , and a WAC @.@ leading 130 strikeouts in 110 2 ? 3 innings , earning National Freshman Player of the Year honors from Collegiate Baseball and All @.@ America honors from several publications ? Collegiate Baseball (Second Team) , Baseball America (Second Team) and Baseball Weekly (Third Team) . Humber 's strikeout total was the most for an Owl freshman since 1976 . That season , Rice reached the 2002 College World Series , but lost its first two games and was eliminated . Nonetheless , Humber earned an invitation to USA Baseball 's national team trials . He was the scheduled starter in the second of the two games , which was against the Notre Dame Fighting Irish on June 17 , but the team could not hold a 3 ? 2 lead in the bottom of the ninth . He then competed for the United States national baseball team at the 2002 World University Baseball Championship , which was held in Messina , Sicily . On August 7 , he earned a victory for the United States in a game against the South Korean team . The United States won the silver medal in the tournament .

Entering his sophomore season , he was expected to be a key part of the starting pitching rotation . The 2003 season saw the development of Rice 's " Big Three " rotation , featuring Humber and sophomore classmates Wade Townsend and Jeff Niemann . Humber developed a curveball that season , to augment his arsenal that included a fastball , changeup and split @.@ finger fastball . During the season , Humber achieved his 17th consecutive win in WAC play . He was recognized as a Third Team All @.@ American by Collegiate Baseball and was a First Team All @.@ Western Athletic Conference honoree . The trio entered the 2003 College World Series with gaudy numbers ? Niemann (16 ? 0 , 1 @.@ 63 ERA) and Townsend (10 ? 1 , 1 @.@ 90 ERA) complementing Humber ? and with Humber scheduled for the third game , if necessary . Humber finished with an 11 ? 3 win ? loss record with a 3 @.@ 30 ERA , as Rice won its first national championship in any team sport . He pitched a complete game in the decisive third game of the series , a 14 ? 2 win over the Stanford Cardinal . The game established a College World Series record for largest title game margin of victory . During the season , Rice established a school record 30 @.@ game winning streak . Upon his becoming the College World Series hero , June 26 , 2003 was declared ' Philip Humber Day ' in his hometown of Carthage , Texas in his honor . Following the season , all three pitchers competed in collegiate summer baseball in the Cape Cod Baseball League ; Humber pitched for the Yarmouth ? Dennis Red Sox . Baseball America rated Humber as the seventh @.@ best prospect in the Cape Cod League .

In his junior season of 2004 , Humber compiled a 13 ? 4 win ? loss record and 2 @.@ 27 ERA . He struck out 154 batters and issued only 37 walks in 115 innings . He also set the Rice single @.@ game record for strikeouts when he struck out 17 Hawaii Rainbow Warriors hitters on March 20 , 2004 . Rice entered the 64 @.@ team NCAA Baseball tournament as one of the eight national seeds . In the first game of the regional round of the tournament , Rice was upset by the Texas Southern Tigers . Humber entered the next game against the Texas A & M Aggies with the bases loaded and surrendered a first @.@ pitch grand slam to Justin Ruggiano . For the season , Humber totaled 154 strikeouts in 115 innings pitched .

Humber finished his three @.@ year career with a 35 ? 8 win ? loss record and 2 @.@ 80 ERA , striking out 422 in 354 innings pitched . Humber 's totals rank him with the third most wins in Rice baseball history and second most strikeouts . Among his honors for the season were selection to the 2004 Louisville Slugger All @.@ America team by Collegiate Baseball and the 2004 USA TODAY / Sports Weekly All @.@ America team . During the inaugural year for the Roger Clemens Award , which designates the top college pitcher , he was one of 10 named semifinalists . He was also among the 10 finalists for the Dick Howser Trophy in 2004 , in recognition of his performance as one of college baseball 's top players .

Following the early exit in the Houston Regional due to the upset by the Aggies , Humber looked forward to the Major League Baseball Draft . Niemann , and Townsend were all selected along with

Humber in the first eight picks of the 2004 MLB Draft ? the first time three teammates had ever gone so early in the same draft . Only twice had three teammates been taken in the first round , most recently when Steve Hasey , Tom Goodwin and Eddie Zosky of the Fresno State Bulldogs were selected in the first round of the 1989 Major League Baseball draft . Teammate David Aardsma , a relief pitcher , was also selected in the first round .

= = Professional career = =

= = = New York Mets (2006 ? 2007) = = =

The New York Mets chose Humber out of Rice University with their first @-@ round pick in the 2004 Major League Baseball draft , the third overall selection . The Mets chose Humber over Jered Weaver and Stephen Drew , who also received consideration , as they considered Humber to be the " safe " selection . They also scouted Justin Verlander , who the Detroit Tigers had chosen with the second overall pick . It was reported that the Mets preferred Verlander , and would have chosen him if the Tigers had selected Drew .

On January 11 , 2005 , Humber and the Mets agreed to a five @-@ year contract , ending a long holdout the day before the Mets began their two @-@ day minicamp in Port St. Lucie , Florida . Humber and the Mets were motivated to complete a deal due to a change in federal tax law that made signing bonuses subject to Federal Insurance Contributions Act and Social Security taxes . There is some discrepancy about the value of the contract . According to MLB.com , Humber received a combined \$ 3 @. @ 7 million signing bonus and contract from the Mets . The Houston Chronicle reported the contract to be a \$ 4 @. @ 2 million deal with a \$ 3 million signing bonus and that Humber would fly to minicamp . Six months later , Lee Jenkins of The New York Times also reported the signing bonus to be \$ 3 million , but he claimed the contract was for \$ 5 million in total . John Manuel of Baseball America reported the contract was worth a maximum of \$ 5 @. @ 116 million , with \$ 4 @. @ 2 million guaranteed .

Baseball America rated Humber as the 50th @-@ best prospect in baseball heading into the 2005 season . Humber entered spring training in 2005 with the Mets . There , he clashed with Mets ' pitching coach Rick Peterson , who wanted Humber to adopt a different training regimen and change the manner with which he threw the ball to the plate . The Mets front office supported Humber , telling him to pitch how he felt comfortable .

After the brief stint in spring training , the Mets assigned Humber to start his professional career with the St. Lucie Mets of the Class @-@ A Advanced Florida State League , where , in fourteen starts , he posted a 2 ? 6 win ? loss record and a 4 @. @ 99 ERA . Humber was then promoted to the Class @-@ AA Binghamton Mets of the Eastern League . In one start , Humber gave up three earned runs in four innings . Humber left the game early due to elbow pain caused by bone spurs , which required ulnar collateral ligament reconstruction (more commonly known as Tommy John surgery) to repair a torn ligament in his elbow . The surgery was performed by Dr. James Andrews of the American Sports Medicine Institute . Coincidentally , his Rice pitching teammates , Townsend (Tommy John surgery) and Niemann (arthroscopic shoulder surgery) , also endured major surgeries that year . Rice coach Graham , who also coached MLB starters such as Roger Clemens and Andy Pettitte in college , shied away from any blame , noting that all three missed out on fall league play by holding out . In spite of his arm surgery , Humber was named the 20th @-@ best prospect in the Florida State League by Baseball America , which ranked him as the fifth @-@ best prospect in the Mets organization following the season .

On March 8 , he was assigned to the Mets minor league camp . After rehabilitating from surgery , Humber resumed pitching with St. Lucie in 2006 , posting a 2 @. @ 37 ERA in seven starts . He compiled a 3 ? 1 win ? loss record . On July 31 , 2006 , a year after his surgery , Humber was once again promoted to Binghamton , where he was 2 ? 2 with a 2 @. @ 88 ERA . He was an early September call @-@ up when the Major League rosters expanded on September 1 . However , Humber did not make his Major League Baseball debut until September 24 , 2006 . He made two

appearances for the Mets as a relief pitcher , pitching two innings . However , Humber was unable to obtain his pre @-@ surgery velocity . That fall , he began play in the Arizona Fall League but his participation was discontinued when he endured shoulder tendinitis .

Before the 2007 season , Baseball America rated Humber as the fourth @-@ best prospect in the Mets organization . That year , the Mets had nine pitchers competing for five spots in the starting rotation in spring training camp . Óliver Pérez , Tom Glavine , Orlando Hernández , and John Maine were the favorites for the spots in the rotation . Veterans Aaron Sele , Chan Ho Park and Jorge Sosa were also invited to camp so that the team could be patient with former first round draft choices Humber and Mike Pelfrey , who were considered the most promising pitchers in camp . Rated the 73rd @-@ best prospect in baseball by Baseball America prior to the 2007 season , Humber competed for a spot on the Mets roster in spring training . However , Humber was optioned to the minor leagues during spring training in 2007 . Assigned to the New Orleans Zephyrs of the Class @-@ AAA Pacific Coast League (PCL) , Humber had an 11 ? 9 win ? loss record and 4 @.@ 27 ERA in 139 innings pitched . He allowed 129 hits and walked 44 while striking out 120 batters in 25 starts . For the season , Humber finished tied for fourth in the PCL in wins and had the tenth @-@ best ERA . He had started the season by earning the PCL Pitcher of the week for the week ending April 22 . That week he allowed 2 earned runs in 13 innings of work over two starts , earning a win on April 16 against the Nashville Sounds with six innings of work and suffering a blown save after seven innings against the Albuquerque Isotopes on April 21 . He flirted with a no @-@ hitter with the Zephyrs on August 22 when he entered the ninth inning without giving up a hit to the Iowa Cubs . In his subsequent start , he allowed only an unearned run on two hits over five innings , but he was removed from the game when a batted ball hit him in the shoulder .

Humber was promoted to the Mets , again as a September call @-@ up , on September 2 . Though the Mets considered inserting him into the starting rotation immediately , they chose to start Pelfrey . Humber made two relief appearances for the Mets , on September 5 and 11 . The Mets , having lost eight of their previous 12 games and seen their lead over the Philadelphia Phillies in the National League East division race decrease from seven games to two , removed Pelfrey from the final rotation to give an extra day of rest to pitchers Pérez , Maine , and Pedro Martínez , and gave Humber his first Major League start on September 26 , 2007 , against the Washington Nationals , choosing him over Dave Williams . Although the Mets raced out to a 6 ? 2 lead , Humber allowed five runs in four @-@ plus innings , receiving a no decision in a game the Mets eventually lost , 9 ? 6 . The decision to start Humber was seen as emblematic of the Mets ' desperation . As George Vecsey wrote in The New York Times , " How did it come to this ? How did the entire Mets ' season come to depend so much on a young pitcher , Philip Humber , who had never started in the major leagues until last night ? " He concluded his three Mets appearances in the 2007 season with a 7 @.@ 71 ERA .

= = = Minnesota Twins (2008 ? 2009) = = =

Following the 2007 season , the Mets began to discuss trading Humber to the Minnesota Twins in a package of prospects to acquire two @-@ time Cy Young Award @-@ winning pitcher Johan Santana . Eligible to become a free agent after the 2008 season , Santana had rejected a proposed four @-@ year , \$ 80 million contract extension from the Twins . Assuming that he was unlikely to resign with Minnesota , the Twins began to shop him to other MLB teams .

On February 2 , 2008 , the Mets traded Humber , along with outfielder Carlos Gómez and pitchers Kevin Mulvey and Deolis Guerra , to the Twins for Santana . At the time Baseball America ranked Guerra , Gomez , Mulvey and Humber the second , third , fourth and seventh @-@ best prospects in the Mets organization , respectively .

During spring training , the Twins assigned Humber to Santana 's former place in the Twins ' clubhouse . While trying to earn a spot in the rotation , Humber compiled 11 consecutive scoreless innings in the Grapefruit League . By late March , Humber had a spring training ERA of 1 @.@ 29 .

Humber spent most of the 2008 season assigned to the Twins ' Class @-@ AAA affiliate , the Rochester Red Wings of the International League . He started off slow with a 0 ? 5 win ? loss record

and a 5 @. @ 83 ERA in his first nine starts . With Rochester , Humber eventually compiled a 10 ? 8 win ? loss record with a 4 @. @ 56 ERA in 31 games . He finished with a 6 ? 1 win ? loss record and a 2 @. @ 67 ERA in the second half . His 4 ? 1 win ? loss record with a 2 @. @ 74 ERA in August earned him the Minor League Pitcher of the Month Award . The Twins promoted Humber in August 2008 , and he appeared in five games for the Twins , all in relief . Humber pitched 11 2 ? 3 innings , and posted a 4 @. @ 63 ERA and six strikeouts for the Twins . Following the 2008 season , Humber was out of options , and could not be sent to the minor leagues without first being subjected to waivers , where other teams could claim him .

Humber made the Twins ' Opening Day roster in 2009 as a long reliever . Humber struggled at the start of the 2009 season , pitching to a 12 @. @ 46 ERA over 4 1 ? 3 innings , while giving up 11 hits and walking four batters . The Twins designated Humber for assignment on April 17 , 2009 to make room on their roster for Juan Morillo , who the Twins had claimed off waivers from the Colorado Rockies . Humber cleared waivers and the Twins assigned him to Rochester . The Twins recalled Humber in August 2009 due to an injury to Francisco Liriano , but outrighted him to the minor leagues ten days later . Humber was granted free agency after the 2009 season .

= = = Kansas City Royals (2010) = = =

On December 15 , 2009 , Humber signed a minor league contract with the Kansas City Royals , receiving an invitation to spring training . After he pitched to an 11 @. @ 74 ERA in four spring training games , the Royals reassigned Humber to their minor league camp on March 22 .

Humber was assigned to start the year with the Omaha Royals of the PCL . On June 10 , 2010 , while pitching in a game for Omaha , Humber was hit in the face on a line drive by Luis Cruz . After lying on the mound for a few minutes , he was able to get up and walk on his own to the dugout . He was then transported to a local hospital , where he received eighteen stitches . He earned the second PCL Pitcher of the Week Award of his career for play during the week ending August 1 . He won the award based on having posted a complete game 4 @- @ hit 7 @- @ strikeout shutout against the Nashville Sounds on July 30 .

However , Humber began to regain the velocity he had lost following Tommy John surgery in 2005 . Humber was called up by the Kansas City Royals on August 5 , 2010 , when Kansas City designated José Guillén for assignment . On August 25 , Humber pitched three relief innings for the Royals against the Detroit Tigers and earned his first MLB win . He finished the 2010 season with a 2 ? 1 win ? loss record and 4 @. @ 15 ERA in eight games for the Royals , including one game started . He also appeared in 21 games , 20 of them starts , for the Omaha Royals , pitching to a 5 ? 6 win ? loss record and 4 @. @ 47 ERA . The Royals designated Humber for assignment in December 2010 , in order to make room on the roster for newly signed Jeff Francoeur .

= = = Chicago White Sox (2011 ? 2012) = = =

In December 2010 , the Royals waived Humber , and he was claimed by the Oakland Athletics , who had extra room on their 40 @- @ man roster at the time of the waiver claim . However , the team subsequently filled its 40 @- @ man roster and designated Humber for assignment later that off @- @ season in order to make room on their roster for Guillermo Moscoso , who the Athletics acquired from the Texas Rangers in a trade during January 2011 . The Chicago White Sox claimed Humber off waivers from the Athletics on January 18 , 2011 . He signed a contract worth \$ 500 @, @ 000 for the season . White Sox pitching coach Don Cooper worked with Humber , as he replaced his cut fastball with a slider and improved his pitching mechanics in the fashion originally recommended by Peterson in 2005 .

Humber debuted with the White Sox in their third game in relief . He made two pitches , both of which resulted in hits and base runners that came around to score . With Jake Peavy injured at the start of the 2011 season , the White Sox gave Humber the opportunity to pitch in their starting rotation . On April 9 , 2011 , Humber won his first start with the White Sox , pitching 6 2 ? 3 innings and only allowing one run . Humber surprised the White Sox with his strong performance . On April

25 , in the sixth start of his career , he took a no @-@ hitter into the seventh inning against the New York Yankees at Yankee Stadium , but with one out Alex Rodriguez singled up the middle . He finished with seven scoreless innings . He took a no @-@ hitter into the sixth inning against the Washington Nationals on June 26 , but ended up earning a 2 ? 1 loss when he surrendered a seventh inning home run to Danny Espinosa . In early July , when he led the major leagues with 103 2 ? 3 innings pitched and held an 8 ? 4 record with a 2 @.@ 69 ERA , he seemed like a probable selection for the 2011 Major League Baseball All @-@ Star Game . In mid @-@ July , the White Sox switched to a six @-@ man rotation . By early August , Humber was in a slump . Humber denies the extra rest affected his pitch command . He spent time on the disabled list with a facial bruise after Kosuke Fukudome lined a baseball into his face above the right eye on August 18 . After he was hit , he was very concerned for his wife : " I thought , ' I 've got to get up because she 's in the stands , ' " Humber said . " As soon as I went in [the clubhouse] , I asked one of the guys to call her to make sure she knew I was OK . " , adding " My main concern was cheering up my wife . " He appeared in one rehabilitation start for the Charlotte Knights of the Class @-@ AAA International League . Humber pitched seven scoreless innings in his major league return . Humber completed his first full season as an MLB starting pitcher with a 9 ? 9 win ? loss record with a 3 @.@ 75 ERA in 163 innings .

As Humber performed better in the first half of the 2011 season (8 ? 5 , 3 @.@ 10 ERA) than in the second half (1 ? 4 , 5 @.@ 01 ERA) , which he attributed to general fatigue , Humber decided to add 20 pounds (9 @.@ 1 kg) during his offseason workouts . Humber signed a one @-@ year contract in March for \$ 530 @,@ 000 , above the minimum salary for a player with his level of MLB experience . In the first season in which he did not have to battle for a roster spot in spring training , he made his final spring training start in his home state near Rice at Minute Maid Park in front of many relatives . Although the 2012 Chicago White Sox 's rotation was said to be made up of five number @-@ three starters , Humber began the season as the number five starter .

In Humber 's 30th career start in MLB , he pitched the 21st perfect game in MLB history against the Seattle Mariners on April 21 , 2012 . It was the third perfect game in White Sox history after those thrown by Charlie Robertson and Mark Buehrle , and the 18th no @-@ hitter in White Sox history . It was Humber 's second start of the 2012 season and first career complete game .

Humber was named American League (AL) Player of the Week for the week ending April 22 . Humber went 1 ? 0 with a 0 @.@ 63 ERA in 14 1 ? 3 innings while striking out 16 over two starts that week , including the perfect game . He received a congratulatory phone call from President Barack Obama , a noted White Sox fan . Humber appeared on the Late Show with David Letterman , where he read the " Top Ten List " . Humber 's perfect game will be memorialized with a plaque at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum .

Since the perfect game , Humber has struggled . He allowed 20 runs in his next three starts across 13 1 ? 3 innings . He missed one month of the season due to a right elbow strain . Following the acquisition of Francisco Liriano , the White Sox removed Humber from the starting rotation .

= = = Houston Astros (2013) = = =

The Houston Astros claimed Humber off waivers on November 30 , 2012 . Humber made the Astros ' starting rotation at the start of the 2013 season . Humber lost his spot in the starting rotation to Érik Bédard after opening the season with an 0 ? 7 record and an ERA of 8 @.@ 82 . Humber was designated for assignment on May 12 , after his record fell to 0 ? 8 with a 9 @.@ 59 ERA . After pitching in relief for the Oklahoma City RedHawks of the PCL , the Astros selected his contract on August 12 , when they traded Wesley Wright to the Tampa Bay Rays . On October 3 , the Astros declined a \$ 3 million option for 2014 , instead paying him his guaranteed \$ 500 @,@ 000 and releasing him .

= = = Oakland Athletics = = =

On November 2 , 2013 , Humber signed a minor league contract with the Oakland Athletics , with

an invitation to spring training . The Athletics assigned him to the Sacramento River Cats of the PCL .

== = Kia Tigers == =

On December 8 , 2014 , Humber signed a contract with the Kia Tigers of the Korea Baseball Organization . After pitching to a 6 @. @ 75 ERA in 50 2 / 3 innings , Humber was released by the Tigers on July 20 , 2015 .

== = San Diego Padres == =

On December 10 , 2015 , Humber signed a minor league deal with the San Diego Padres . Humber retired on March 29 , 2016 .

== = Pitching style == =

Humber relied on five pitches . He had a four @-@ seam fastball ranging from 89 to 92 miles per hour (143 ? 148 km / h) , a two @-@ seam fastball (89 to 92 miles per hour (143 ? 148 km / h)) , a slider (mid 80s) , a changeup (mid 80s) , and a 12 @-@ 6 curveball (78 to 81 miles per hour (126 ? 130 km / h)) . He used his slider against right @-@ handed hitters but preferred to use his changeup and curveball as off @-@ speed pitches against left @-@ handed hitters . Humber favored his curveball in two @-@ strike situations . He used a conventional " three @-@ quarters " arm slot to deliver his pitches .

== = Personal life == =

Humber married his wife , Kristan , in November 2007 . They were introduced by mutual friends in 2005 . At the time of his perfect game , Humber 's wife was nine months pregnant with the couple 's first child , a son named John Gregory , who was born on May 1 . Humber comes from a large extended family .

Humber is a registered member of the Republican Party . He has the Bible verse Colossians 3 : 23 inscribed in his baseball glove . He undertook a charitable mission to the Philippines in the 2011 ? 12 offseason with Brett Carroll , where they instructed children about baseball and Christianity .

Josh Tomlin , an MLB pitcher , is a close friend of Humber . From nearby Tyler , Texas , Tomlin competed against Humber in high school , and the two train together during offseasons . Humber is currently a Tyler resident .