

Norton calls it quits

United Press International
SAN DIEGO — Grief-stricken by the death of his manager, Ken Norton has hung up his boxing gloves, ending a career highlighted by his jawbreaking victory over Muhammad Ali in 1973 and a brief reign as heavyweight champion of the World Boxing Council.

Norton's manager, Robert H. Biron, who never had fully recovered from brain surgery for a tumor last

December, died Sunday night at his home in Rancho Santa Fe. He was 67.

"I can't go on without Bob," Norton said in announcing his retirement. "When we first started boxing together, Bob and I, we made a pact: If anything happened to me he would quit and if anything happened to Bob I would give up."

"I don't know how to say this, but

without Bob I think I have to give up."

Norton, who fought for the championship several times but never won it, was awarded the WBC's version of the title in September 1978 after Ali beat Leon Spinks in Las Vegas and Ali refused to fight Norton for the title.

In his first title defense, Norton lost a split decision to Larry Holmes in Las Vegas. He attempted several comebacks while also pursuing an acting career, but his last two fights ended in a loss and a draw.

Norton attributed his recent lackluster performances in the ring to the absence of Biron, who had been ill since December when he had to undergo surgery.

Biron, a former vice president with Convair division of General Dynamics Corp. and a vice chancellor of the University of California at San Diego, launched a new career when he became Norton's manager in 1971.



A study in pain

Freshman quarterback Gary Kubiak (center) clutches his left arm after leaving the Penn State game with a hyperextended elbow. Kubiak sustained the injury on the first play of the

game after All-America tackle Matt Millen hit him. Kubiak will be out for two weeks.

Battalion photo by Pat O'Neil

Richard, Astros shutout Braves

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ATLANTA — J.R. Richard, his fastball smoldering on a chilly autumn night, kept Houston's pennant hopes alive Tuesday night with a blistering, four-hit, 13-strikeout performance that sparked the Astros

to an 8-0 victory over the Atlanta Braves.

Richard, the only National League right-hander to ever strikeout 300 in a season, surpassed that mark for the second year in a row as he raised his total to 302 — only one

shy of the record he set last year. He's expected to make one more start this season against the Dodgers in Los Angeles.

Richard, 17-13, was overpowering as he limited the Braves to only four singles. The Braves got their first hit in the fourth, a single by Ed Miller, and the other hits came in the fifth, sixth and seventh innings.

The 6-foot-7 right-hander only had three strikeouts in the first three innings but struck out the side in the fourth and two more in the fifth. At that point, the last six Atlanta outs were all strikeouts.

Richard struck out two in the seventh and was only one shy of the 300 mark. The 300th came in the eighth against leadoff batter Miller and catcher Luis Pujols stopped the game to run out and shake Richard's hand and throw the ball into the Astros' dugout as a memento of the occasion.

The Astros, who entered the game trailing Cincinnati by 2½ games in the National League West,

opened the scoring in the first inning when they tallied three runs on a single by Enos Cabell and the other on an infield out.

Cesar Cedeno opened the second by being hit by a pitch from Tommy Boggs, 0-2. Jose Guillen followed with a double down the field line and Cedeno and scored when Cabell singled. Walling, who had three hits, singled Cabell to third after Pujols flied out. Cabell's third run when Rafael Landestoy bounced out.

The Astros scored two runs in the sixth on four straight hits led off with a single, Walling singled, and Cabell scored a single. Landestoy then home Walling to give the their 5-0 lead. Pujols singled runs and Landestoy singled for the final three runs in the inning.

Houston had 19 hits in the off four pitchers.

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