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THE BATTALION

Pastorini says Stabler won't win job easily

United Press International HOUSTON — Native Californian Dan Pastorini, on his way back home in a trade that brings Ken Stabler to Houston, says Oakland's veteran quarterback may not have an easy time getting post the Oilers' No. 2

Even coach Bum Phillips, in announcing the trade last Saturday, said Stabler, 34, would have no automatic advantage over Houston's third-year pro Gifford Nielsen, a

Mormon whom teammates nick-named "Pilgrim."

"I'll tell you," Pastorini said, "the kid (Nielsen) is the apple of my eye. He's been a great friend. He's a great athlete. He's learned more football in two years than a lot of athletes would in five or six. He's very in-

'I think Mr. Stabler might even be surprised when he competes with Gifford. It's going to be an interesting situation.

Pastorini, who age 30 is ending nine troubled seasons with the Oilers, said in leaving he would offer Nielsen the same advice he gave when they first met;" stay out of bars and go to the right churches."

Pastorini did not take his own advice, and his fast lifestyle contributed to friction with some of the city's football fans and with some sports reporters.

"I'm leaving a city that has not been the easiest place to grow up in. It has not been the most difficult either," he said. "I'm leaving with

mixed emotions."
Pastorini covets the limelight, and he indicated in a short farewell speech given at a news conference he called Tuesday that the media were

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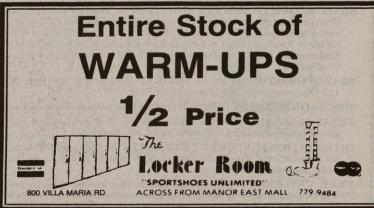
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age many fans held of him. Local football fans voting Saturday in an intormal newspaper poll preferred Stabler over Pastorini by a count of

"I would like to say I'm very sorry for not getting to know everyone in ters. At that time the city, for I feel that had I had that ded to be traded.

partly to blame for the negative im- opportunity, it would have been easier on all of us," Pastorini said.

> The incident which apparently caused Phillips to seek a trade was Pastorini's blow up after being told by Phillips he could not race dragsters. At that time, Pastorini deman-



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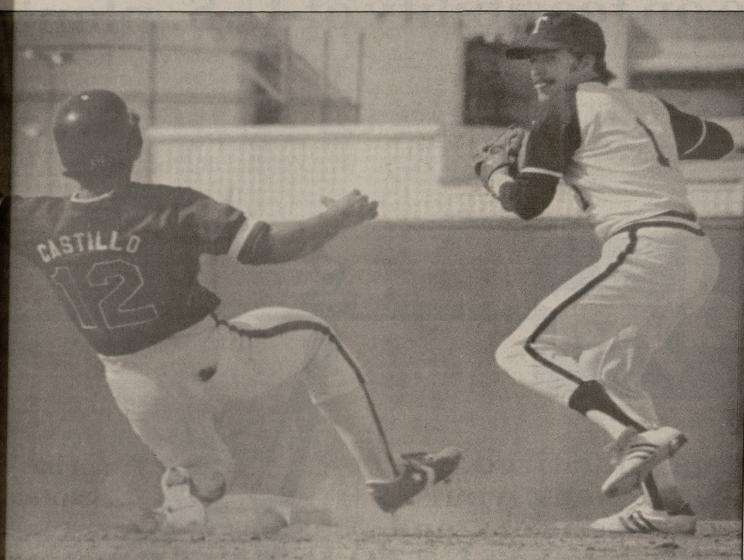


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stern province of a Junior shortstop Bryan "Twig" Little starts his throw to first ned for the first time base to complete a double play against Lubbock Christian

College earlier in the season. The Aggie baseball team is off to

ation Minister Mal Baseball year yielding Robert Lee, and it agents were good agent agents were good agents agent age n February. nert Lee is a spy, in nany pleasant surprises

By MIKE BURRICHTER

Sports Editor
Tom Chandler entered his 2nd
ason as head baseball coach at
xas A&M with simple objectives mind. He had lost some tremend-stalent to graduation. The posihe worried about most was coming from high school at the Southwest Conference

of those pitchers were Mark ond and Mark Ross, mainin the Aggie rotation for three ez Cana ars. Between them, 14 Aggie baseecords had fallen. Both went on Dass open with the San Diego Padres Ross with the Houston Astros. indler's starting rotation enteris season consisted of one soph-

SAID, Egypt ore and two freshmen. Chandler lay inaugurated a said this was going to be a reand two freshmen. Chandler vater channel benefilding season and if his team was to a Suez Canal subset well, his young pitching staffed linking up would have to mature quickly. ranean. It took 15 The sophomore is Bobby Taylor,

cost of \$50 million opitched in seven games last sea-cort Said Bypas' of before being sidelined with a hip tankers coming tury. The two freshmen are Rick tankers coming hout to reach the Meditere cken, of Spring Woods High ool in Houston and Robert ens, who pitched at Houston's going through the Poh while other vessels co.v nal itself at the stbury High School last year.

site direction.

Lucken and Slavens are both 5-0 beening of the method into this weekend's series on to three bypass. In Texas Tech at Olsen Field. In the canal in opposite the canal in opposite the canal in opposite the same time for the bas an ERA of 2.12, leads the tsentire 100 mb/m in strikeouts, with 27 in 34 inginal canal dug wings. Taylor is 2-3 and his ERA is

"I'm pleasantly surprised," he operation of andler said. "Certainly Luecken average 15 housed Slavens have come to the front

Chandler had said earlier he ped to get the young pitchers as game experience as possible

before conference play got into full swing. But he hadn't expected them to be so successful. Now he knows shared by a freshman and a senior

they are ready. "Nothing succeeds like success, and they're stepping forth very well," he said. "That's quite a step, coming from high school right into

Another area in which Chandler was concerned was catcher, where

walk-on. Freshman Joe Szekely and

senior Doug Teague make up the odd couple behind the plate.

Szekely has played in 13 games and is hitting .205. Teague, a walkon split end for the Aggie football team, has made 11 game appearances and is hitting .214.

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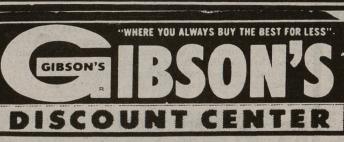
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