

Houston lawyer firm negotiating merger

United Press International
HOUSTON — The Houston law firm of Fulbright & Jaworski and the Dallas firm of Hughes & Hill are negotiating a merger which would create the nation's second largest law firm.

But officials of both firms said Wednesday negotiations were "very preliminary" and

no decision had been made. Fulbright & Jaworski, with 325 attorneys, is the country's 11th largest firm and Houston's second largest firm.

Reports of merger discussions between the two law firms follow the proposed merger between two bank holding companies that are major clients of the firms.

Mercantile Texas Corp. of Dallas, represented by Hughes & Hill, recently agreed to merge with Southwest Bancshares of Houston, represented by Fulbright & Jaworski.

The Houston firm was headed by Leon Jaworski, until his death last December.

Researchers test new heart pump

United Press International
AUSTIN — Biomedical researchers at the University of Texas are testing a new external heart pump designed to mimic the pulsing action of the human heart during certain types of cardiac surgery.

The new pump was recently demonstrated to members of Dr. Denton Cooley's heart research team at the Texas Heart Institute in Houston, who were impressed enough to request a second demonstration.

"Certainly for us this has been a point of encouragement that the Texas Heart Institute has picked up on it," said Dr. Tom Runge, a faculty member in UT's biomedical engineering program.

In the Houston experiment, Runge said a 170-pound calf was hooked up to the pump for 70 hours and a left ventricular operation was performed. The pump took over for the left ventricle, allowing it to rest.

Later the external pump took over the entire heart function, sustaining the animal for 15 hours — much longer than a human heart operation would last.

When the calf's heart started beating on its own later, Runge said, "They (Heart Institute officials) were delighted."

"Usually you can't get a calf out of fibrillation (induced heart stoppage)," he said. "They (Heart Institute physicians) were amazed to see that after 15 hours the calf could be defibrillated and the heart would work."

UT researchers believe their pulsatile pump may reduce blood damage by pushing the blood with a compression action that drives the blood through the capillaries more efficiently.

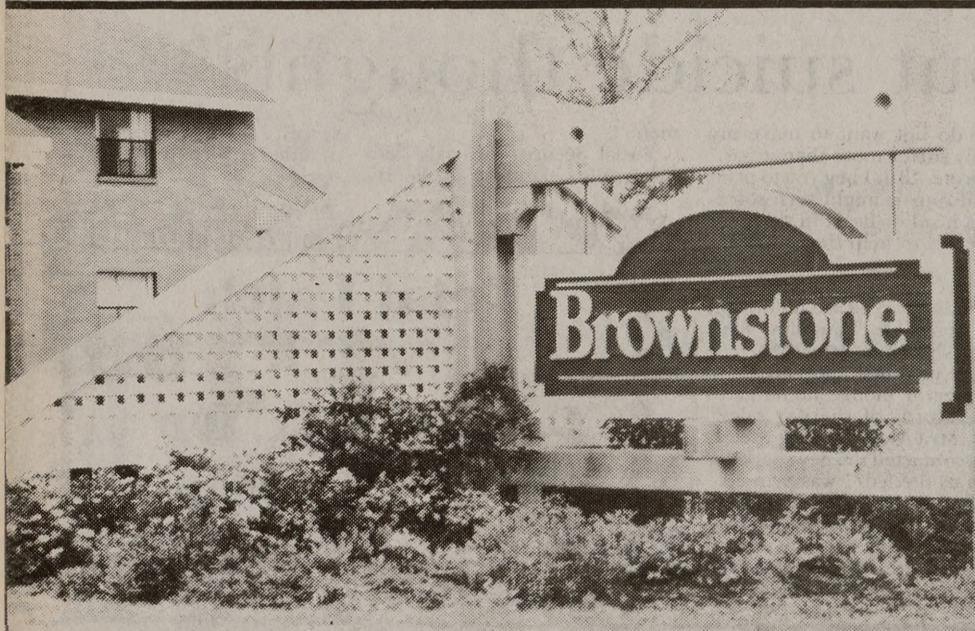
"These external valves are unique," said Runge. "A researcher at the Texas Heart Institute described them as elegant."

The pump's cardiac sac, which operates like the heart's ventricle, is made of blood-compatible material, as is the tubing, a polyurethane biomer.

Runge said the pump has possible applications in cardiopulmonary bypass operations, for use as a left ventricular assist device and for cardiac patients with life-threatening heart failure.

"The pulse is similar to the body's natural action and I feel it's a benefit," he said. "The primary things it does are definite improvements over the old system."

Runge said further testing of the pump is planned, but it could be used in its present form for certain emergencies.



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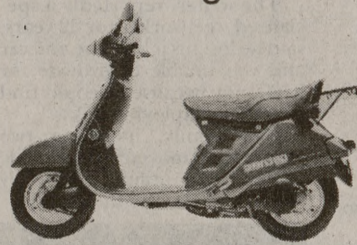
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The Class of '83 plans to light the Aggie Eternal Flame at Yell Practice tonight.

Flame to be lit at midnight yell

by Maria Gautschy

Battalion Reporter

The Texas A&M Class of '83's gift to the University, the Eternal Flame, will be lit Friday during midnight yell practice.

The Eternal Flame, a symbol of Aggie's burning spirit for Texas A&M, will be dedicated to President Frank E. Vandiver during half-time at Saturday's game by Dan Kardell, Class of '83's chairman of the project, and by the Class of '83 officers Joe Meyer, Anne Horn, John Motley and Hank Roraback.

The gas flame will burn from a bronze bowl on top of a black granite pyramid. Water will flow from the sides of the pyramid and be surrounded by a twelve-pointed cement star representing the Twelfth Man.

Kardell said a Class of '83

officer will light the flame, but because of the rush to finish the project it has not been decided which one.

The major problem has been the installation of the gas line, and, he said, a temporary one will probably have to be installed in order to light the flame during midnight yell practice on Friday.

Kardell said he thought of the Eternal Flame idea two years ago. He discussed the idea with Jim Vandenberg who designed a sketch of the final project. The Class of '83 then voted on the design, and construction began in late July.

Kardell said he hopes the flame will be used for such activities as lighting the candles for Muster and lighting the torches for bonfire.

Drunk driver kills one and injures two more

United Press International
HOUSTON — Police charged a Texas Department of Corrections officer with involuntary manslaughter after he lost control of his pickup truck and ran over three women on a sidewalk.

One of the women died Wednesday, police said. The other two were reported in good condition.

Hector Guerra, 30, of Rosharon, was charged with being drunk when he ran into and killed Rose Marie Gatlin, 51.

Sgt. D.R. Hurd said Guerra registered a .16 on the test. The highest legal level is .10.

Eva Ober, 29, was hit, but she was treated and released from Houston hospital. Rebecca Lyon, 23, was listed in good condition in the hospital.

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Wednesday, September 14, 1983

PCPA Day allows all students to visit with company representatives in their booths about job opportunities, employment requirements, and course selection toward obtaining employment. Wednesday, Sept. 14th 9-11:30 and 1:30 to 5:00 — Second floor MSC

Tickets for the evening barbeque at the Brazos Center will be on sale in MSC Hallway, September 5-12. Senior and internship interviews with companies on September 15 and 16. Sign up starts August 29 in the Career Placement Center.

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