lew treatment for kidney stones pleases doctors

r & Billi

ocedure that dissolves kidney nes within an hour by using and waves through water. The procedure, called extrarporeal shock-wave lithosy, is a relatively painless atment which uses no drugs surgery and requires only a

al anesthetic for the patient, d Dr. Don Griffith, director he project at Methodist Hos-

The machine, an updated

United Press International version of one developed a de-HOUSTON — Doctors said cade ago in Munich, West Gerdiesday they were opti-ic about an experimental into dust-size particles. Within 48 hours, the granules pass through the patient's body naturally and painlessly, Griffith

Five patients have undergone the procedure in Houston this week, and Griffith said each is doing well. Overall, there is a 90 percent success rate, which means a few of the patients have to undergo secondary

The treatment begins by

in a tub of water over an energy source that produces shock waves. The shock waves are concentrated directly on the kidney stone and force an implosion on the stone causing it to disintegrate, but do not de-stroy or damage the kidney or

surrounding tissues. During the hour-long treatment, the patient receives about 1,000 to 1,500 shocks which are monitored by a urologist with who have simple, solitary a few minutes he fell asleep and fluoroscopes

The test program in Houston, utilizing the \$2 million machine, is one of six in the United

Compton said Americans use

and to cook with, and that fear

dianapolis, Boston, New York, Gainesville, Fla., and Charlottesville, Va.

The entire procedure costs the patients between \$2,500 and \$7,000. Not all insurance companies are reimbursing for the costs because the procedure is still considered experimental, Griffith said.

'We are selecting patients now who are in good health and comfort. In fact, he said, within

stones," Griffith said. "But by June, we should be able to treat of the procedure. people with more than one the kidney of upper uretary

Patient George Black, 58, underwent the treatment Tuesday. He said it felt like "a little mild slap," but he felt no dis-

"It was totally painless," said next Monday," she said. stone. By August, we hope to treat patients with any stone in Black, who attended a news conference and expected to be released from the hospital this

Sara Wilson, 29, a school teacher, said she underwent an operation two years ago to remove had the procedure performed tion, he said.

"I plan to be back at worl

Griffith said patients being accepted into the program mus not weigh more than 280 pounds and stand no more than 6-feet-6 or less than 4-fee They also must have no life kidney stones. At that time, she threatening medical problems was out of work six weeks. She or uncontrolled urinary infec

placing the kidney stone patient States, including centers in In-Ford unveils first natural gas powered vehicles

United Press International

Vince Lond chigan Pand iating team. I y figures in NFL and NI DEARBORN — Ford Motor unveiled a fleet of natural s-powered Ranger compact lot of exercising trucks Wednesday, that he bargar assaid are safer and cheaper to that show operate than conventional gasosaid are safer and cheaper to operate than conventional gasoalking," hea

ne-powered vehicles.
The 27 natural gas Rangers ill be tested by utility and natral gas-related companies ross the nation. Each is payg \$20,000 over two years to ticipate in the program.

Natural gas is commonly wed to power vehicles in Italy, New Zealand, Canada and the Netherlands, but this is the first major test of the fuel's use in the United States, officials said. the All-Ame vorked out The Ford program is being he might a mn in conjunction with the yer if he at American Gas Association. his value. Each Ranger has been equipped day night, with a 2.3 liter engine that has rimmage them modified to use 130 oc-

up into tane natural gas fuel.

layersead. In additional to mechanical modifications, the trucks are equipped with four fuel tanks made of fiberglass-wrapped uminum. These add about rwards and o 00-400 pounds to the weight their respec the truck waiting for

Dale Compton, vice presi-

Continued from page 1

de to put it at west gate."

ower's location.

vas still und site was chosen.

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er can

Peel said the west gate site

But some old buildings need to

for Texas building immediately, another

nancial had have aroused concern Arkansas mong some Texas Assacration

not sing dents. Several students told The ports Info Battalion that though they do bill Little 5 not object to the bell tower, they (Texas asset do object to its location.

cansas and If he (Albritton) wants to een ships donate money for a bell tower, signedher that's great, but I don't think est Confer they should have moved the

tigate thes memorial," said Tim Goggin, a

enter I be a port of the construction letter I be a port of the construction of the co

Monique Cox, a freshman

usiness major, agreed with

"I don't like the idea of mov-

ing the memorial," she said. "I think they could have found a

better place for it (the bell tow-

on west campus," he said. right.

ing baskets.

at times is folding bet

on gasoline and would get the fuel tanks "had bullets fired about 20 percent better using at them—they've been burned, natural gas. He said the cost of crushed and dropped. They're crushed and dropped. They're operating the natural gas trucks is "roughly half per mile" of extremely safe. regular gasoline powered natural gas to heat their homes

However, the vehicles can of the fuel was not a issue. carry only enough natural gas to travel about 250 miles. The firm hopes to convince major oil companies to begin offering natural gas at their service stations, Compton said.

He said the natural gas program is part of a larger effort to test alternative fuels.

Ford offers a propane option on 1984 LTD and Mercury Marquis autos and is testing 600 Escorts powered by methanol. It has sold 300,000 autos in Brazil that are powered by grain alcohol or ethanol.

"Gasoline prices have remained relatively low and have lulled us into a false sense of security," said Compton.

Gas association spokesman Kenneth T. Cuccinelli said there is enough natural gas in the world to power 100 million vehicles for the next several hundred years.

Both officials maintained drivers need not worry about ent of research at Ford, said the safety of natural gas-powch truck gets about 18 mpg ered vehicles. Cuccinelli said

Philip Toelkes, a sophomore

"I think it's a good idea," Toelkes said. "I think it's great

money to the University. A lot

One student commented on

Peel said he was surprised and pleased at students' interest in the future of the bell tower

and the memorial. However,

students should keep the "big

picture" in mind when consid-

gift, it's real hard to say,

"When someone is making a

don't need it, we need some-thing else," Peel said. "They

have specific things in mind

that are their preference. We could not function, we could

not operate without gifts. One

The

Battalion

Since 1878

has to evaluate the big picture.'

ering the issue, he said.

ocean engineering major, de-er that, the decision was fended Albritton's decision to

s his second choice for the of him to donate so much

of people are running him down, and I don't think that's

torn down first, and since
One student commented on
the propriety of Albritton's gift.

donate a bell tower.

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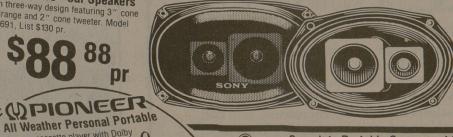
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