

Movie may have inspired bomb

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP) — A Washington State football player may have gotten the idea to build a pipe bomb from watching an action-adventure movie, his father said Thursday.

Harvey "Buddy" Waldron, 22, of Bellevue, was killed by injuries suffered when a homemade bomb accidentally exploded in the vehicle he was driving here Monday. His teammate and passenger, Payam Saadat, lost his left hand.

An autopsy in Spokane on Thursday "did not reveal any surprises" and showed that Waldron suffered major trauma to the head, Pullman Police Sgt. Chris

Tennant said. Waldron died Tuesday at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane.

Tennant said investigators had no new leads as to a motive, but Waldron's father suggested his son may have gotten the idea to build a pipe bomb from watching the movie *Under Siege*.

Harvey Waldron of Bellevue said his son had recently seen the movie starring Steven Seagal, who plays a former Navy SEAL member and builds a pipe bomb. As a cook on a battleship, Seagal's character battles elite killer commandos out to hijack the vessel's nuclear arsenal.

Waldron said his son, who was

a SEALS enthusiast, apparently was "sitting there one night" with Saadat when they decided to try to build a pipe bomb themselves.

Meanwhile, Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents and Pullman detectives may wait until Monday to interview Saadat about the incident, Tennant said. Saadat, who is being treated at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, had been told Wednesday of Waldron's death and was under sedation.

Doctors and family members asked that detectives wait until at least Monday before interviewing him, Tennant said.

Toronto continues bid for pro basketball team

TORONTO (AP) — Labatt breweries and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, co-owners of baseball's Blue Jays, on Thursday joined the effort to bring an NBA team to Toronto.

The Palestra Group, one of two Toronto groups vying for an NBA expansion franchise, announced that John Labatt Ltd. and the CIBC each would own one-third of the team.

The NBA's expansion committee will meet Tuesday in New York to review the progress toward adding two teams for the 1995-96 season, but no decision will be made, according to Brian McIntyre, the league's chief spokesman.

"We know Toronto is ready, we know Palestra is ready, but the decision is ultimately the NBA's," said Palestra president Joel Rose. He said he was "cautiously optimistic" that something very significant would come out of the meetings.

"Our expectation is to have a firm, conditional grant by June 30," said Rose.

Labatt owns 90 percent of the World Series champion Blue Jays, which have drawn over four million customers in each of the past two years. The CIBC owns 10 percent of the American League franchise.

Toronto is not a difficult sell as a sports town. The Blue Jays sold out their 50,000-seat stadium for all but 13 games last year en route to a second consecutive major league attendance record.

Tickets to see the Maple Leafs of the NHL are at a premium even though the team has not won a Stanley Cup since 1967 and, until this year, went several seasons without a competitive team.

The Palestra backers said they have received unsolicited requests for more than 4,000 season tickets from basketball fans in southern Ontario and western New York.

As part of its bid, Palestra and Maple Leaf Gardens, Inc. are working together in the development and financing of a proposed 24,000-seat arena for both the basketball and hockey teams. Labatt and CIBC would not have a stake in the arena.

Rose said the choice has been narrowed to four sites, all in downtown Toronto and near mass transit.

A second Toronto bidder is John Bitove, head of Bitove, Inc., a catering firm which among other things provides food at the SkyDome stadium, home of the Blue Jays and the Toronto Argonauts of the Canadian Football League.

"There are other people who are interested," Rose said. "And I'm not sure we've necessarily scared them off."

Rose said it would take three years to plan and build the new arena. Under the current Palestra timetable, he said, an NBA team starting in Toronto in 1995, would have to play in a temporary site for one year.

"We need a definitive decision to get our facility up and running," he said.

Palestra is headed by Rose, a Toronto lawyer, and Larry Tanenbaum, who is in the heavy construction and roadbuilding business.

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