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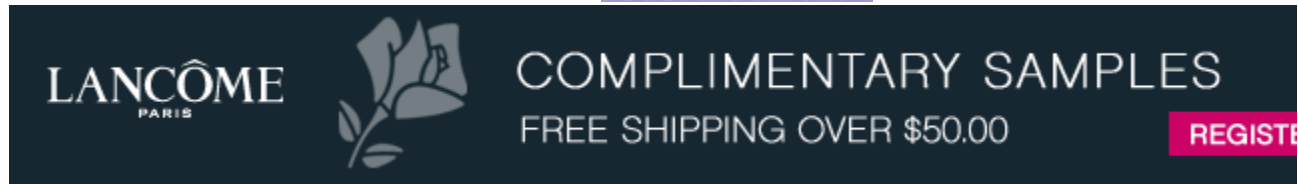
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HERALD INTER

'Tomb' opens doors to 'Indy'-style adventures

By Tenley Woodman

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

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Why sit at home and play a video game when you could be in one?

Attleboro native Matt DuPlessie hopes to plug into Bostonians' curiosity with ``Tomb," the first interactive installment by his Fenway-based company 5 WITS.

``Tomb," which opens Friday at 5 WITS (across from the AMC Fenway theater), takes groups of five to 15 people on a 40-minute, ``Indiana Jones"-style journey.

Visitors are led by a guide dressed as an archaeologist through five rooms resembling an ancient Egyptian tomb. Their task is to discover the fate of a professor who went missing inside it years before.



As part of their quest, visitors must search for clues and solve riddles. Simple, right?

Think again.

Similar to the ``Choose Your Own Adventure" books, the ending of each tour is different, so each decision counts.

``I like that it gives the guests control," DuPlessie, 27, said. ``It's not a scripted show that will happen whether you are there or not. It happens because you are there."

DuPlessie, a MIT and Harvard Business School graduate, applied his mechanical engineering degree to create the effects and structure of ``Tomb."

He researched ancient Egyptian history to develop the story line and

make the tomb details historically accurate. The hieroglyphics etched into the set are digitized versions of actual hieroglyphics from a real tomb.

``It's this constant challenge to fit plot to effects and effects to plot," DuPlessie said.

``Tomb" will run at 5 WITS for 12-18 months. The next project will feature either a deep-sea adventure, with a ``20,000 Leagues Under The Sea" feel, or a James Bond-style safe-cracking caper.

``My main goal in starting a business was that I'd never be bored," DuPlessie said.

(``Tomb" at 5 WITS, 186 Brookline Ave., Boston. Mon., Wed., Thu., 11 a.m.-midnight; Fri., 11 a.m.-1

a.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-1 a.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.-midnight. Tickets, \$10-\$20. 617-375-9487 or www.5-wits.com.)

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