

Lawyers to Air Closing Cases In Partin Trial

BUTTE, Mont. (AP) — The criminal conspiracy trial of Louisiana Teamsters official Edward Grady Partin begins its fourth week today when opposing attorneys make their closing arguments.

Defense attorneys for Partin, who is charged with violating the Sherman Antitrust Act, called the last of their 27 witnesses Friday.

Partin was expected to testify but did not take the stand.

The 46-year-old Partin, whose testimony helped convict former Teamsters President James R. Hoffa of jury tampering, is accused of conspiring with Ted F. Dunham Jr. in an attempt to monopolize the Baton Rouge area concrete business.

Dunham owned Louisiana Ready-Mix, a concrete firm. He stood trial in Louisiana earlier this year and was convicted on two of five counts of criminal conspiracy and awaits sentencing.

The 40 government witnesses tried to show that Partin used Teamsters to eliminate Dunham's rivals in the concrete business.

One burly witness, Wade McClanahan, 6-foot-4, 250 pounds, said he carried out sabotage for Partin and was employed by the Teamsters as a strongarm.

Defense attorneys attempted to discredit McClanahan's testimony by submitting an affidavit he had signed. It said one Baton Rouge concrete producer had tried to bribe him into testifying against Partin in an antitrust suit.

Justice Department attorneys called 40 witnesses in the trial, which was shifted from New Orleans to Butte on a change of venue.

One of them, Billy Reed Rogers, a former Dunham employe, said he attended a meeting at which Partin demanded a \$25,000 payoff from Dunham as commission for concrete poured by Louisiana Ready-Mix.

Following final arguments by the five lawyers, U.S. Judge W. D. Muayry will deliver court instructions to a three-man, nine-woman jury.