

# THE CARGO COURIER

123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, Louisville, Ky.

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An "intruder" is searched and apprehended by Master Sgt. David Selby, right, while a security augmentee summons for backup police support. Below, Tech. Sgt. Mark Green cools down with cold water after removing his chemical warfare gear and gas mask following more than two hours of "alarm black" in Savannah.

KyANG photos by Master Sgt. Terry Lutz

Ketterer, a navigator who served on the exercise planning team, referring to some logistical hurdles that resulted from the new base transition in Louisville. "We also knew the heat would be a problem, so having all that spring water and fresh fruit was a big help."

Kentuckians were spared the usual sweat shop of Savannah, thanks to a heavy cloud

cover and temperatures around 86, down from the typical 90s on most June days. And with 600 cases of bottled spring water flown in -- almost one case for every person there -- commanders were relieved that no one was seriously affected by the nature of the exercise. About seven cases of heat exhaustion were reported

## Gas! Gas! Gas! ORI dress-rehearsal returns to Savannah



By Tech. Sgt. Jeff Sansbury  
NCOIC of Public Affairs

SAVANNAH, Ga. -- Unless you served in the Persian Gulf War back in 1991, you probably don't know how difficult it is to drive a bus in full chemical warfare gear, or how hot you become after donning a gas mask for two or three hours straight. Flying a C-130 transport plane couldn't have been much easier.

So last month, the 123rd Airlift Wing dealt that experience to members of the Kentucky Air National Guard. For six days in June, the unit deployed to the ANG's combat readiness training center in Savannah, Ga., to simulate a

military base in the Middle East where hostilities have begun.

In one of his first acts as wing commander, Col. Mike Harden deployed alongside 670 of his own Guard troops. The exercise was the 123rd's last major practice, a sort of dress rehearsal, for its upcoming operational readiness inspection in February 1996. The 9th Air Force will conduct the inspection, and a final pre-ORI deployment is scheduled there in November.

"The base move affected us somewhat in the deployment," said Maj. Bill

each day, with some requiring trips to a local hospital.

"The learning curve went way up that week. By the second and third days, we saw a noticeable reduction in safety problems, medical calls and fatigue, said Ketterer.

"Attitude is 90 percent of the game," he added. "People were using their off-duty time responsibly, and that helped a lot."

A 22-member evaluation team from Moody AFB near Valdosta, Ga., joined the Kentucky guardsmen. The team's job was to

See ORI on Page 8

# This Is A Profession Of Arms; Our Pledge Is Combat Readiness

**T**his is the first of what I hope will be many commander's messages. First, let me say how honored I am to be named your wing commander. I have been a member of the 123rd for more than 19 years now, and I can truthfully say that I have enjoyed almost every minute, and I look forward to many more years of service with you.

The 123rd is, and has always been, a place where people come together to serve their state and country. Some people come because the money is nice, because they find it fun, or simply out of a sense of duty.

Whatever the reason, we are here in service to our country and it is our duty to fulfill that service commitment to the best of our ability. We are military members who are expected to be combat ready. My duty, and the duty of all commanders, is to ensure that every individual in this wing is combat ready.

If we don't live up to that duty, we fail not only the country, but we also fail in our duty to you.

The world is a dangerous place now, and we are never sure who our enemies are. We can be thrust into a



**Col. Michael L. Harden**  
*123rd Airlift Wing Commander*

combat environment on very short notice, and I take very seriously my duty to

ensure that you are trained and ready to meet the demands of combat. If you are, then I will consider my tenure as a commander a success.

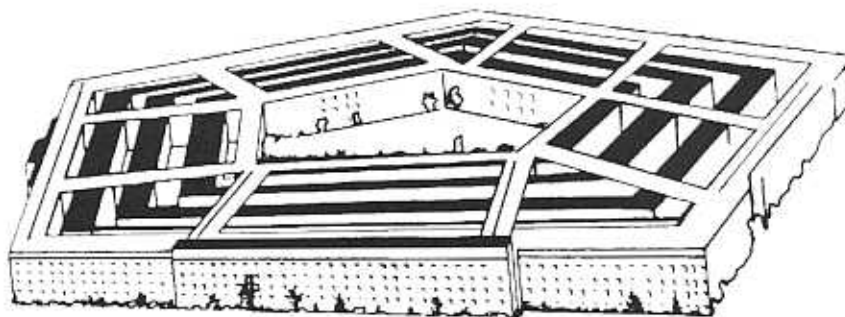
It is my responsibility to provide you with the training that you need to go to war and survive. It is your responsibility to be receptive, and to take that training very seriously. Buddy care, chemical warfare, small arms, COMSEC and security awareness training are not just "squares" to fill -- this training forms the basis of your ability to survive, and it is your duty to take it seriously.

In this dangerous world it is no longer enough to be a good flyer, a good fixer, a good supplier or a good server. We belong to the profession of arms -- a profession that demands we train for, and are prepared for, the worst.

My duty is to see that you are provided the training and equipment that enables you to face the rigors of combat;

to prevail; and return home to Kentucky, to make them proud of yourself and your unit.

Your duty is to make the most of the training and to be as combat ready as possible. I solicit your support. Thanks  
LOADS!



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Call the wing PA office if you have a story idea, photo or article to submit. The deadline for our next issue is July 21, and our office is in the new HQ building.

# 14 grads make first Distance Learning class

By Tech. Sgt. John Martin  
123rd Airlift Wing Historian

Fourteen members of the Kentucky Air National Guard graduated May 26 from the NCO Academy at McGhee-Tyson ANGB, Tenn., making it the unit's first Distance Learning graduation class ever.

As a result of this first group's success, plans are underway for next year's DL class. This will enable noncommissioned officers to attend the NCO Academy without jeopardizing their civilian careers, thus fulfilling their professional military education requirements and satisfying their two-week annual field training commitment.

Students attended sessions twice weekly, for three to four hours each night, during the 19-week course which began Jan. 3. In addition, three exams were given in which students had to achieve 70 percent or higher before continuing in the course. Subjects included management skills, quality issues, Air Force history, wear of the uniform, communications, behavioral studies, and written and public speaking exercises.

At the end of the home-based study, students departed for McGhee-Tyson for their final two weeks of academy training. Thirteen days later, the NCOs stood tall and proud as graduates of this rapidly expanding method of education, which boasts a 100 percent graduation rate. Tech. Sgts. Mark Crane, Katrina Kerberg and Ernie New were named distinguished graduates, which is reserved for the top 10 percent in the

class.

If there was any question about support, you only had to notice the 31 friends, family and other KyANG personnel who made the trip to witness the ceremony.

In all, 102 DL students graduated that day, representing seven states that have ventured

into the program.

Distance Learning may be new, but it's already popular here. The next class will begin during the first week of January 1996.

If you're curious on how to fulfill your PME without leaving home or taking Course 6, Distance Learning may be for you.

## 13 members recall the Pueblo Crisis



KyANG photo by Senior Master Sgt. Dave Tinsley

**IT WAS 27 YEARS AGO:** The last 13 active members of the Kentucky Air Guard who were here during the 1968 Pueblo Crisis call-up gathered in March for a group photo. They are, staggered from left: Paul Bell, Bob Allen, Gloria Orm, Bob Williams, Frank Hall, Tom Marks, Harris Borland, Glen Adair, Ed Sachlaben, John Amshoff, Sue Meyer, Steve Wegman and John Henry.

# Guinness Book of Records says *NO* to 123rd CES

When the 123rd Civil Engineering Squadron was moving the massive "clamshell" hangar to its new location on base in May, CE members believed they were doing something unprecedented. Col. Ed Tonini, the Kentucky Air National Guard's public affairs officer, thought it would be a good idea to pursue that notion and get the 123rd a place in recorded history ... at least in the Guinness Book of World Records.

The procedure for submission of records was researched and it was submitted in due order. Late in June, Tonini received

a fax message from the Guinness publishing offices in Enfield, Middlesex, England, indicating that what the civil engineers had accomplished was not a world record.

The 1995 Guinness Book of World Records gives details of the move of the Hotel Fairmont in San Antonio, Texas. It weighed 1,600 tons and was moved five blocks to a new site in 1985.

If anything else, that amazing feat makes the clamshell hangar move the "piece of cake" that Lt. Col. Thomas Marks Jr. and his 123rd CES staff actually made it.



## Group membership can be governed by DoD

(Air Force News Service) -- In the aftermath of the April 19 bombing in Oklahoma City, Secretary of Defense William Perry asked the service chiefs to reemphasize the standing regulations which forbid membership in certain groups.

As spelled out in Air Force Instruction 51-903, Dissident and Protest Activities, "mere membership in an organization is not prohibited." Being an active participant is prohibited in certain cases. Active participation is defined as publicly demonstrating or rallying, fund-raising, recruiting or training members, organizing or leading such groups.

Groups that advocate supremacy, discriminate based on race, creed, color, sex, religion or those that use force or violence to deprive people of their civil rights, are not compatible with military service and are prohibited. Service members should check with legal officials before joining an organization to avoid "actions up to and including trial by courts martial."

AFI 51-903 does not apply to Air Force civilians; however, the Air Force response in such cases would depend upon the facts and circumstances of each case; action could include disciplinary action or termination of employment.

## Health care plan for retirees offers HMO-like benefits



By Tech. Sgt. David Masko  
AFNS Features Editor

SAN ANTONIO, Texas -- When free care in the military hospital is not available or convenient, Air Force health officials say beneficiaries need another option.

The solution is TriCare, which officials describe as a means to lower the cost of civilian medical care, thereby increasing access for patients. TriCare is a regionally managed care program for members of the uniformed services and its families, and survivors and retired members and their families. It brings together the health care delivery systems of each of the military services, as well as the civilian health and medical programs of the uniformed ser-

vices, in a cooperative and supportive effort to better serve DoD beneficiaries.

TriCare was designed by the Defense Department based on basic managed care principles practiced today by many civilian health care organizations. It's an enrolled health maintenance organization-like option with enrollment fees for retirees, but no deductible. Enrollees selecting this option choose a primary care manager to provide or arrange for their health care requirements.

Under TriCare Prime, for example, the enrollment is for one year and has specific program rules such as requiring people to seek non-emergency care first from the primary care manager.

The TriCare Standard program is the

same as standard CHAMPUS, with applicable deductibles, cost shares and the most freedom in selection of providers.

Priority for enrollment gives first preference to active duty members who will be automatically enrolled in TriCare Prime and receive most of their care in the military facility; second to active duty family members who may voluntarily enroll in Prime and who will, for the most part, be routinely accommodated within the military facility; and third to retirees, their family and survivors.

"I've had supplemental health insurance myself for years because I think it's a smart business decision," said retired Lt. Gen. (Dr.) Alexander Sloan when he was Air Force surgeon general in 1994.

"I would recommend that our families, and our individual servicemembers, look at their own personal situation, and consider what is best for them," Sloan said.

Sloan said he's also learned that when people retire -- reach the age of 55 or older -- they often confront the worst possibilities in the current health insurance market: because of age or medical conditions, individual coverage is difficult to obtain or very expensive.

When TriCare is fully implemented, retirees will have less concerns about losing their health coverage. When they reach age 65, they have a choice under TriCare of staying in their health plan or enrolling in Medicare.

"Enrollees have access to health care services in a timely fashion," said Air Force medical officials. "No more waiting 30 days for the next available appointment."

For more information on TriCare, Air Force officials suggest calling your base hospital or clinic. Handbooks are available at some bases.

## Officer uniform changes, 'retrofit' program begins

(Air Force News Service) -- Last January, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service began offering a "retrofit" program for officers who wanted to add epaulets to their service coat; officers also had the opportunity to remove the officer sleeve rank rather than waiting to purchase a coat with epaulets already attached.

Since the program began, response has been positive, according to Air force officials, with more than 4,500 officer coats turned in to local military clothing sales stores for the conversion. The retrofit process has worked smoothly and coats have been returned to customers by priority mail within six to eight weeks.

The cost to retrofit the coat varies between \$41 and \$45, depending on the number of sleeve rank braid removed from the coat. This cost includes all shipping and handling fees.

Before the retrofit program began, there were some concerns that removing the sleeve rank would damage the material. These concerns have



proved unfounded. Even before dry cleaning the retrofitted coat, one is hard pressed to detect any signs the sleeve rank was removed from the coat. For best results, it is preferred that coats have been dry cleaned less than five times prior to the retrofit process.

For individuals who prefer to buy a coat with epaulets already attached, epaulets are being added to coats currently in the AAFES warehouse. These coats are now available for purchase in limited quantities and sizes at your local

It's *Grrreat* to be back home!



U.S. government photo

**ATTENTION "STILL UNREAL:"** Capt. Scott O'Grady, the Air Force F-16 pilot shot down over Bosnia June 2, stepped onto American soil June 11 for the first time since his rescue. O'Grady said the reaction to his return still amazes him, and that his rescuers deserve the fanfair.

MCSS. The cost is \$129 for men and \$122 for women. For colonels and below, this cost includes the blue sleeve braid and alteration costs to attach the braid. General officers purchase sleeve braid separately.

Coats which currently have officer sleeve rank must be retrofitted by Oct. 1, 1996. Effective that date, officer sleeve rank is no longer authorized. As a reminder, individuals are not required to have the new uniform until the mandatory wear date of Oct. 1, 1999. Only officers will have epaulets on the new dress coat.

For policy information, contact Maj. Wright or Master Sgt. Glover at DSN 227-8116. Regarding the program implementation, call Senior Master Sgt. Warman or Staff Sgt. Lawrence at DSN 487-3996.

# KyARNG will get M-1 Abrams tank

## Bluegrass soldiers get taste of Idaho

By Maj. Norm Steen  
Idaho National Guard

The Kentucky Army National Guard's 149th Brigade, 35th Infantry Division, will soon receive the Army's M-1 Abrams main battle tank.

Soldiers of the Kentucky unit recently received training on the Abrams at Gowen Field, Idaho. The 1st and 2nd battalions of the 123rd Armor, headquartered in Paducah and Bowling Green, will receive 58 new tanks each in the near future. The new tank provides greater firepower, accuracy, speed and survivability than the older M-60A3 tank. Both tanks are operated by four crew members. The Abrams was relied upon heavily in Operation Desert Storm.

Tank crews trained for two weeks in Idaho. "The training is intensive. They

don't get much time off while they're here," said Command Sgt. Maj. Edward Ellis, the course's senior noncommissioned officer. "We actually start the orientation and training at the unit's home station during their weekend training, about two months prior to their arrival here. They arrive here ready to go."

"Instruction is in three main areas, explained Capt. J. Don Blunck, the operations officer for the combat vehicle transition training team.

"We train the tank crews on how to operate the Abrams, how to conduct maintenance on it, and we train senior personnel how to supervise that maintenance. We conduct the course year 'round

for National Guard units from across the country," he said.

As the size of the total Army continues to decline, the relative role of the Army National Guard continues to grow. Nearly one-half of the Army's total

combat power is now in the ARNG. The 35th Infantry Division and the KyARNG are stepping up to meet that challenge.



Idaho ARNG photo by Maj. Norm Steen

**MOVIN' OUT:** A Kentucky tank crew takes part in new equipment training at Gowen Field in Idaho.

# Promotions at the KyANG

The following members have been promoted in the Kentucky Air Guard and as reservists of the U.S. Air Force.

**To Airman 1st Class (E-3)**

Gregory Mattingly, 123rd Aerial Port Sq.

**To Senior Airman (E-4)**

Thomas Hagan, 123rd Comm Flight

Damian Probus, 123rd Aerial Port Sq.

**To Staff Sgt. (E-5)**

James Gilmore, 165th Airlift Squadron

Harold Givens, 165th Weather Flight

Timothy Smith, 123rd CES

JoAnna Wigginton, 165th Aerial Port Sq.

**To Tech. Sgt. (E-6)**

James Berger, 123rd CES

## Rifle team comes in 3rd; Johnson wins overall score

The Kentucky Air National Guard's rifle team seized top scores at the State Combat Rifle Championships June 11 at Fort Knox.

### first-ever 'combat rifle' competition

The team earned third place against 10 Army Guard teams. It also marked the first-ever appearance in a "combat rifle" competition. All shooters fired M-16 rifles at ranges extending up to 300 yards, using tactical positions and scoring at moving targets.

Team members were: Lt. Col. Gary Napier, Maj. Michael Johnson, Tech. Sgt. James Berger and Airman 1st Class Christina Holder. Johnson was presented an additional award for his overall top scores.

The air guardsmen also competed against top civilian marksmen in a National Match Rifle Course competition May 28 in Borden, Ind. The match featured 500-yard ranges, and the KyANG's top shooter was Senior Airman Craig Smith.

Team members there were Napier, Johnson, Berger and Senior Master Sgt. John Forbis.

Anyone interested in the KyANG's marksmanship program should call Lt. Col. Dan Wells at on-base ext. 653.



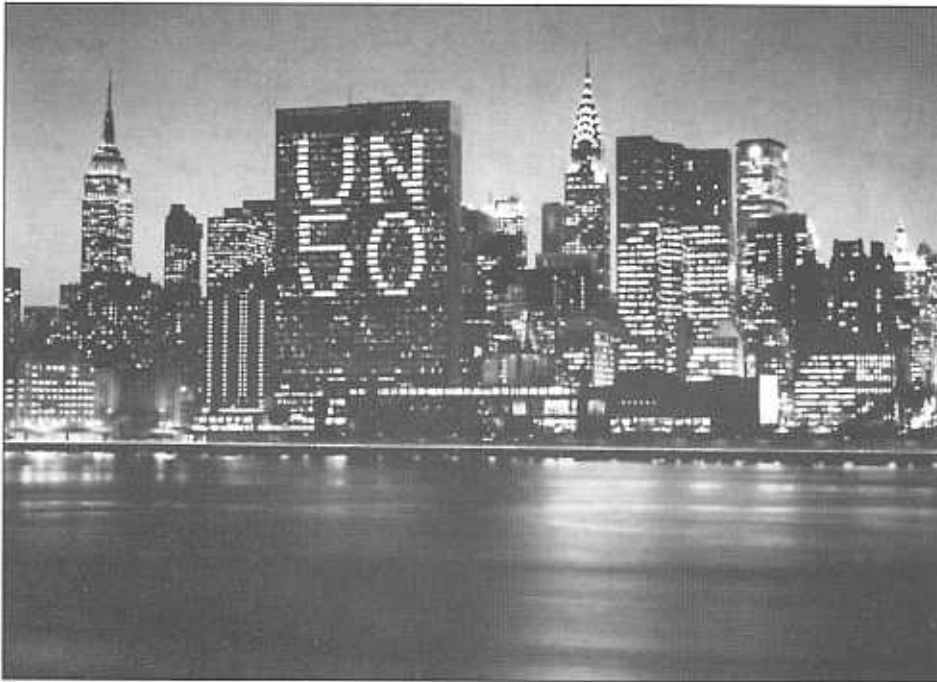


Photo is courtesy of E. Schneider

The U.N. Secretariat Building lights up in celebration of its 50th anniversary in New York City. Events, activities and information campaigns are planned this year to commemorate the founding of the world organization, which has 185 members.

## After 45 months of war, U.S. drops inferno on Japan

By Tech. Sgt. John Martin  
123rd Airlift Wing Historian

"Japs Quit! Accept terms of surrender!" screamed newspaper headlines across America upon news of the end of World War II. It was Aug. 16, 1945; just 10 days earlier, America unleashed what proved to be the knockout punch that hastened Japan's desire to surrender.

The seeds of that surrender were sown in a physics laboratory at Columbia University in 1939. There, scientists succeeded in splitting uranium atoms, but were unaware of the powerful capabilities of the device. Germany had access to the information, as did other countries, but lost much of it when the purge of German-Jews, notably Albert Einstein, came and offered the same information to America to resume the research.

In 1942, more than \$2 billion was given to this project, known as the "Manhattan Project," creating an explosive device of fissionable material 40 million times greater than the force of TNT.

Repeated attempts to force the Japanese to surrender met with failure. The war in Europe had been over for two months, but the savage fighting in the Pacific continued. Troops in Europe were awaiting orders for transfer to the Pacific theater for the expected invasion of Japan, set for Nov. 1.

After four years of fighting in Europe, everyone wanted the war to end. Anticipated American casualties for an invasion was estimated at 1 million. Something had to be done to end the war. That something occurred in the first week of August 1945.

After careful deliberation, President Harry S. Truman, with support from Win-

ston Churchill and Joseph Stalin, agreed to use this most awesome of weapons should Japan again refuse to surrender. One last declaration was made to Emperor Hirohito on July 28, demanding "unconditional surrender or face complete destruction."

Again Japan refused. American patience had worn out. Weather permitting, Aug. 6 was set as the day to use the bomb.

On that day at 8:15 a.m., a B-29 flying at 33,000 feet dropped a uranium bomb, "Little Boy," over the industrial city of Hiroshima, one of four cities selected as target sites. Within moments, an explosion equivalent to 20,000 tons of TNT blew out the core of the city, destroying everything in its wake, and killing an estimated 68,000 people.

Above the city was the most ghastly of sights, the eerie mushroom-shaped cloud. Three days later, Nagasaki was leveled by a plutonium bomb with similar results.

The death toll from the blasts were staggering, estimated at 125,000. So horrible was the destruction that it was hours before the mushroom cloud, smoke and flames subsided enough to permit aerial reconnaissance.

On Aug. 10, the day Russia declared war on them, Japan sued for peace and accepted the terms of surrender, taking effect Aug. 16.

Though its fighting forces were scattered on widely separated fronts, the most crucial and historic symbol of its surrender was aboard the 45,000-ton battleship, the USS Missouri, anchored in Tokyo Bay. It was there on Sept. 2 that the official surrender was signed by the Japanese in front of hundreds of allied commanders, most notably Gen. Douglas MacArthur, supreme commander of Pacific forces, and Lt. Gen. Jonathan Wainwright, a former POW of the Japanese.

And one other witness to the surrender was there: flying above the ceremony was the American flag, the same flag that flew above the U.S. capitol on the day Pearl Harbor was attacked. That flag is now on display at the 15th ABW, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

As for Japan, the occupation lasted until 1952. American influence continued, helping this former enemy become an economic super power. The ensuing years have brought many changes and challenges, but few can match the resounding joy of V-J Day, or victory-over-Japan, 50 years ago this summer.

# ORI, field training returns to the Deep South

*Continued from Page 1*

create an inspection document and to build a checklist of pre-ORI findings. Overall, the evaluation earned two thumbs up.

"We learned a lot from the 123rd," said Maj. Dan Goble, the evaluation team's chief. "We hope the experience was beneficial to both sides; they'll be ready for the ORI."

The unit operated in a hostile environment that was subject to land and air attacks from the enemy, an enemy that used both chemical and biological weapons. Lightning storms forced the cancellation of some nighttime airdrop missions, but most other activities were carried out as planned.

"I realize the new base at Louisville presented some obstacles early on, but that was no big deal," Harden told key personnel during a final briefing June 22. "Most importantly, we wanted everyone to be comfortable with the facilities here and the rules for the upcoming ORI."

But it wasn't all tough in Savannah. Toward the end of the week, nearby resorts provided some R&R to visiting guardsmen, and who could forget the spiritual support of *Holy One* and *Holy Too*, the wing chaplains who kept most things in

perspective that week. Equipped with pocket bibles and walkie talkies, the chosen two endured every threat condition and "alarm black" exercise with relative ease. They survived simulated gas attacks, wore their gear properly and swapped mystery meats from their MRE packs.

Travis Field in Savannah is one of three combat readiness training centers operated by the Air National Guard. The other two are located near Alpena, Mich., and Gulfport, Miss.



Above, Col. David Moremen was treated for a simulated "heart attack" while serving in the command post, as a medic responded in full chem-gear and mask. At left, Tech. Sgt. Simon Harris assists an air crew member after two hours of "alarm black" exercises.



KyANG photos by Master Sgt. Terry Lutz  
Under a military field tent, Master Sgt. Rose Farquhar provided orientation briefings for troops just arriving at the ANG training site in Savannah. Safety reports, an MRE and lots of bottled water were issued daily during the six-day deployment.

## Superior Performers

At Travis Field in Savannah, 29 Kentucky Air Guard members were recognized for their outstanding performances during the operational readiness evaluation:

Tyler Vincent, Philip Campbell, John Cassel, Michael Buckley, Timothy Foster, Daniel Skees, Michael Geoghegan, Eddie Lawson, Howard Rutledge, Stephen Higdon, Genevieve Smith, Randall Adams, James Long, David Heustis, Keith Seigle, William Davis, Ronald Loyd, James McKenzie, Curtis Hall, David Selby, Delano Jewell, Shawn Keller, Anthony Mitchell, Thomas Monin, Donald Briney, Douglas Walls, Stephen Ellis, Harold Smith and James Smith.

