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512th Airlift Wing, Dover Air Force Base, Del.



Submitted photo

Biker chicks

Team Dover members 2nd Lieutenant Michelle Anderson (left), Senior Airman Stacey Enger and Capt. Sally Reece display their athletic accomplishment in Rehoboth Oct. 2. The trio's pedal time from the Delaware Technical Community College in Dover to Rehoboth was 7 hours, 9 minutes. They raised about \$1,300 in support of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Lieutenant Anderson is assigned to the 512th Maintenance Squadron; Airman Enger is a member of the 436th MXS; and, Captain Reece works in the 436th Operations Support Squadron.

Don't miss Tops in Blue

The Tops in Blue 2010 World Tour comes to Dover Nov. 23. Admission is free for the event at Delaware State University's Humanities Theater. The doors open at 6:15 p.m., and the show begins at 7:00 p.m.

Red Ribbon Week arrives

The Drug Demand Reduction Program at Dover Air Force Base, Del., invites the community to take a visible stand against drugs by celebrating Red Ribbon Week Oct. 23 to 29.

Red Ribbon Week's goal is to raise awareness of drug use and the problems related to drugs that a community faces and encourage parents, educators, business owners and other community organizations to promote drug-free lifestyles.

The Drug Demand Reduction team will be visiting various locations this week giving freebies and literature to educate the public regarding drug use in the military and the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

For more information about Red Ribbon Week, visit www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com or contact Mike Waring or Kathy Penniston-Smith from the 436th Medical Operations Squadron at (302) 677-2752.

Appeals court issues stay on 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' order

The Defense Department supports the Oct. 21 federal appeals court decision to temporarily block a judge's order that put an immediate end to the so-called "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law that bans gay men and lesbians from serving openly in the military.

The three-judge panel Oct. 20 issued a statement which noted that it allowed the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law to stand to provide more time to study the issues involved in its possible repeal. The court set an Oct. 25 deadline for both sides to submit legal documents for consideration.

The higher-court decision temporarily suspends U.S. District Judge Virginia Phillips' Oct. 12 ruling that the law is unconstitutional. Judge Phillips issued an injunction requiring the department "immediately to suspend and discontinue any investi-

gation, or discharge, separation or other proceeding that may have commenced under the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' act or its implementing regulations."

In its appeal, Justice Department officials asked that the law be reinstated, at least until a study of the impact of repealing it is completed.

Defense Department officials want a deliberative, long-range look at any changes in the law, said Pentagon spokesman Marine Corps Col. David Lapan.

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates set up a working group to examine the ramifications of a possible repeal of the law. The group is scheduled to submit its report Dec. 1.

"The review that is going on would look at all the far-ranging impacts of what changing the law

would mean," Colonel Lapan said.

A long-range plan for changing the law would include a period of transition to conduct training to ensure that everyone was informed about new policies and procedures, he said.

In response to Judge Phillips' ruling, Pentagon officials had instructed recruiters to begin processing paperwork for openly gay men or lesbians to apply to serve in the military. But citing uncertainty over final disposition of the matter in the courts and on Capitol Hill, Mrs. Smith warned at the time that potential applicants needed to be aware that the situation could change, as it has with the Oct. 20 appellate court decision. (Courtesy American Forces Press Service)