



# GIRL TALK

Powder Puffs of California — Serving the California Gender Community Since 1987

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## British Military Welcomes Trannies

Taken from Neutral Corner  
July August, 1999, Issues 168-169

People who undergo sex-change operations will be allowed to remain in the British military, the Daily Telegraph reported Aug. 2, citing confidential new Defense Ministry guidelines.

The British military bans homosexuals.

The policy change followed publicity in the case of Sgt. Major Joe/Joanne Rushton, 38, who has begun "gender realignment."

A former boxer who served in Ulster and Bosnia, Rushton joined the army at age 19, has been married four times and has a son.

## September Meeting:

The month of August is always a tough one. Everyone is on vacation and information is difficult to get. What this means is that I haven't a clue as to the contents of the September meeting. All I can tell you is that we are having one.

Also, we are still on Daylight Savings Time, so the September meeting will still start at 8:00 pm. Next month we will revert to Standard Time, however not until the end of the month. The Board, in their infinite wisdom, will need to decide whether or not our October meeting will start earlier or not. Watch this space for info.

Date: Sat, Sept. 18th, 1999

Time: 8:00 pm PDT

Place: Placentia Holiday Inn, 118 E. Orangethorpe Ave, Placentia, CA. Take 57 Fwy to Orangethorpe exit. Head east.

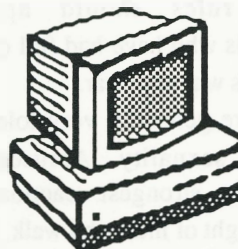
## DRUDGEREPORT

### Update on Dreamin2000

My sources tell me that our own Joan Goodnight, in the dark of night, took off for San Francisco to meet with the NorCal groups about Dreamin2000. Apparently concerned about the Y2K bug, Goodnight et al. are leaving nothing to chance and are starting to ink contracts.

It seems the booming economy have emboldened the management of many hotels. The fire sale prices of the past recession are as stale as yesterday's box scores. While the Dreamin2000 team are working to keep prices down, look for some price increase. Word has it, though, that he hotel has raised food prices an average of 25%.

The location will still be at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn. Good news for all you Ross Dress for Less and cable car fans. As reported last month, look for optional "extra curricular events" in the \$35 to \$45 range for the more daring. Better start shaving those legs now, dearie! A Iso, rumor has it that brochures should be coming out in the next month or two.



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PPOC:

<http://www.ren.org/ppoc.html>

CA Dreamin:

<http://www.flash.net/~dhome/cadreamin>

## Tolerance toward transvestites a major policy shift in Bangkok

7:13 p.m. ET (2314 GMT) July 30, 1999

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — An unwritten tolerance of transvestite students at a major Thai teachers' college appears to signal a shift in government attitude on issues of sexuality.

The Bangkok Post reported Friday that male transvestite students on the Suan Dusit campus of Rajabhat Institute are allowed to wear women's school uniforms to classes.

The policy — which appears to vary among the institutes 36 campuses — is a major change from two years ago, when the Education Ministry tried to ban gay students from the teachers' college altogether, saying homosexuals are poor role models for youngsters.

Sukhavich Rangsitpholter, who was education minister at the time, said gay men are "sick, both physically and mentally" and prone to becoming male prostitutes.

About half of the estimated 50 transvestite students on the Suan Dusit campus, which is in Bangkok, wear the white blouse and dark skirt uniform of the school's female students.

Almost all university students in Thailand are compelled by tradition and social pressure to wear uniforms.

Several transvestite students at Suan Dusit interviewed by the Post said their cross-dressing had caused no problems.

But Sevi Yenpiem, vice rector of the Suan Dusit school, told the ITV television network that the students are breaking the rules because, as males, they must dress in uniforms for males.

What rules should apply to transsexuals who have had full or partial sex changes was not clear.

Thais are generally very tolerant on issues of sexuality. Amusement is typically the strongest reaction to the everyday sight of men who walk, talk and dress like the most feminine of women.

## Legal battle under way over transgender librarian

2:22 p.m. ET (1825 GMT) August 24, 1999

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A legal battle is taking shape over whether a school librarian who was once named David but is now called Debra can use the women's restroom.

Debra Davis, who had been employed in Minneapolis' public schools for almost 28 years as David Nielson, has been working as a woman since last year at Southwest High.

She is considered transgender, which usually describes people who live and dress as the opposite sex but have not necessarily undergone a sex change. Davis has not said whether she has had surgery. A teacher, Carla Cruzan, filed a complaint with the state in October about having to share the bathroom with Davis. "I have a right to privacy and modesty which the school district must respect," Cruzan said. The American Center for Law and Justice, founded in 1990 by religious broadcaster Pat Robertson, sent a letter Monday on Cruzan's behalf to the state Human Rights Department. The Virginia Beach, Va.-based group asked that Cruzan get a prompt hearing and that Davis be banned from the women's restroom.

Davis said she is using the proper bathroom and has no plans to change: "It's too bad people are so unaccepting and intolerant."

Minnesota is the only state that affords protection by law to those who identify themselves as transgender.

Human Rights Commissioner Janeen Rosas had no comment Tuesday.

Principal Robert McCauley said, "To our best knowledge, we are operating within the law."

### Just for Fun!

The following has nothing whatsoever to do with crossdressing. But it does have everything to do with fun. So grab a pencil and take this little test. I cannot speak for its accuracy, but it is fun.

1. When do you feel your best?
  - a) In the morning
  - b) During the afternoon and early evening
  - c) Late at night
  
2. You usually walk?
  - a) fairly fast, with long steps
  - b) fairly fast, but with short, quick steps
  - c) less fast, head up, looking the world in the face
  - d) less fast, head down
  - e) very slowly
  
3. When talking to people, you?
  - a) stand with your arms folded
  - b) have your hands clasped
  - c) have one or both your hands on your hips
  - d) touch or push the person to whom you are talking
  - e) play with your ear, touch your chin, or smooth your hair
  
4. When relaxing, you sit with?
  - a) your knees bent and your legs neatly side by side
  - b) your legs crossed
  - d) with one leg curled under you
  
5. When something really amuses you, you react with?
  - a) a big, appreciative laugh
  - b) a laugh, but not a loud one
  - c) a quiet chuckle
  - e) a sheepish smile
  
6. When you go to a party or social gathering, you?
  - a) make aloud entrance so everyone notices you
  - b) make a quiet entrance, looking around for someone you know
  - c) make quietest possible entrance and try to stay unnoticed
  
7. You are working hard, concentrating hard. You are interrupted. You?
  - a) welcome the break
  - b) feel extremely irritated
  - c) vary between these two extremes

8. Which of the following colors do you like most?
  - a) red or orange
  - b) black
  - c) yellow or light blue
  - d) green
  - e) dark blue or purple
  - f) white
  - g) brown or gray

9. When you are in bed at night, in those last few moments before going to sleep, you lay?
  - a) stretched out on your back
  - b) stretched out face down on your stomach
  - c) on your side, slightly curled
  - d) with your head on one arm
  - e) with your head under the covers

10. You often dream that you are?
  - a) falling
  - b) fighting or struggling
  - c) searching for something or somebody
  - d) flying or floating
  - e) You usually have a dreamless sleep
  - f) Your dreams are always pleasant

#### POINTS:

1. (a) 2 (b) 4 (c) 6
2. (a) 6 (b) 4 (c) 7 (d) 2 (e) 1
3. (a) 4 (b) 2 (c) 5 (d) 7 (e) 6
4. (a) 4 (b) 6 (c) 2 (d) 1
5. (a) 6 (b) 4 (c) 3 (d) 5 (e) 2
6. (a) 6 (b) 4 (c) 2
7. (a) 6 (b) 2 (c) 4
8. (a) 6 (b) 7 (c) 5 (d) 4 (e) 3 (f) 2 (g) 1
9. (a) 7 (b) 6 (c) 4 (d) 2 (e) 1
10. (a) 4 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 5 (e) 6 (f) 1

Add the total number of points.

#### OVER 60 POINTS:

Others see you as someone they should "handle with care."

You are seen as vain, self-centered, and extremely dominant. Others may admire you and wish they could be more like you, but they don't always trust you and hesitate to become too deeply involved with you

Please see POINTS, Page 4

## Court rules government should pay for sex-change operations

1.42 a.m. ET (543 GMT) July 30, 1999

LONDON (AP) — Britain's free health care service should provide sex-change operations for transsexuals because they suffer from a legitimate illness, a court has ruled.

About 1,000 transsexuals — people predisposed to identify with the opposite sex — will be entitled to the \$13,000 sex-change surgery free of charge under Thursday's ruling.

The three-judge panel said the health authority wrongly regarded transsexualism as a state of mind that did not warrant medical treatment rather than as an illness.

The court upheld a lower court ruling last December that three transsexuals were entitled to surgery under the National Health Service.

All three patients had wanted to complete their transformation from men to women with surgery after going through counseling and other treatment. Hormones they had been taking for the gender change had already led to irreversible physical changes, such as the growth of breasts.

The NHS said sex-change operations would still be limited by prioritizing and rationing in the cash-strapped health service.

"We have always had sympathy for the applicants, but that has always been constrained by the funds available and our priorities," NHS official David Edmundson said.

## POINTS

*Continued from Page 3*

### FROM 51 TO 60 POINTS:

Your friends see you as an exciting, highly volatile, rather impulsive personality; a natural leader, quick to make decisions (though not always the right ones). They see you as bold and venturesome, someone who will try an adventure. They enjoy being in your company because of the excitement you radiate.

### FROM 41 TO 50 POINTS:

Others see you as fresh, lively, charming, amusing, practical, and always interesting; someone who is constantly the center of attention, but sufficiently well-balanced not to let it go to your head. They see you also as kind, considerate, and understanding; someone who will cheer them up and help them out.

### FROM 31 TO 40 POINTS:

Other people see you as sensible, cautious, careful, and practical. They see you as clever, gifted, or talented, but modest. Not a person who makes friends too quickly or too easily, but someone who is extremely loyal to the friends you do make and who expects the same loyalty in return. Those who really get to know you realize that it takes a lot to shake your trust in your friends, but, equally, that it takes you a long time to get over it is that trust is broken.

### FROM 21 TO 30 POINTS:

Your friends see you as painstaking and fussy. They see you as very, very cautious and extremely careful, a slow and steady plodder. It would really surprise them if you ever did something impulsively or on the spur of the moment. They expect you to examine everything carefully from every side and then, usually decide against it. They think this reaction on your part is caused partly by your careful nature and partly by laziness.

### UNDER 21 POINTS:

People think you are shy, nervous, and indecisive someone who needs to be looked after, who always wants someone else to make the decisions and who doesn't want to get involved with anyone or anything. They see you as a worrier, who sees problems that don't exist. Some people think you're boring. Only the people who know you well know that you aren't. Make sure you change the subject of the e-mail to your total.



Forward Motion Progress Report  
Thu, 26 Aug 1999 2:42:16 PM Eastern Daylight Time

## **FORWARD MOTION: Celebrating Cultures, Advocacy, and FTM Lives**

October 8-10, 1999

Hilton Burbank Airport  
Burbank, California

The Forward Motion Conference Organizing Committee (COC) wants to give you some updates, some further information and, most importantly, to keep in touch so that you will know that we have not forgotten you. We are working busily to make Forward Motion a success.

**FIRST THINGS FIRST: DEADLINES LOOMING!** If you have not already registered, there's a registration form at the bottom of this email message for your convenience. Please notice that pre-registration ends on September 15. After September 15, all conference registration will take place at the hotel and will cost \$35 more.

If you have registered and will not be able to attend, the deadline for receiving a full refund is August 30. After that, 50% refund requests in writing will be honored if postmarked by September 30.

**WATER ... WATER** Being Southern Californians, we take an inordinate amount of pride in the fact that not only do we live in a desert, but we also import unbelievable amounts of water from anywhere we can find it so that we can change the landscape and no can tell it's really a desert. (It's a Hollywood thing.) To that end, one of the swimming pools at the Hilton will be reserved for the exclusive use of conference registrants. Bring your swimming suits so you can play, splash, swim, and generally have a good time. (Temperatures in the Los Angeles basin vary, but can be as high as the 80's or 90's during the daytime, with much cooler evening temperatures, in early October. Bring a light sweater or jacket for the evenings.) If you like to work out, you can take advantage of the hotel's fitness centers; one will be reserved exclusively for the use of Forward Motion registrants.

**AND NOW, A WORD (OR SEVERAL) ABOUT OUR PROGRAM...**

The program, while taking its final form, is moving forward daily. Sessions will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, October 8, and conclude at 5:05 p.m. on Sunday, October 10. With help from Program Subcommittee members from all over the United States -- and a few from other countries --, and input from other sources, the COC is planning to offer a rich, diverse program with a wide variety of sessions. The program is roughly divided into different topical themes. Some examples are:

**Body Modification** -- includes confirmed sessions on non-surgical genital modification, testosterone changes from medical perspectives and from lived experiences, chest surgery by Dr. Michael Brownstein, chest contouring and phalloplasty by Dr. David Gilbert, and surgery results as part of Maxwell Anderson's "Transgender Maleness" visual presentation.

**Spirituality, Well-Being, and Introspection** -- a few confirmed sessions are Jewish religious services on Friday morning, a Metropolitan Community Church worship service on Sunday, a discussion of the role of spirituality in our lives, and a workshop on God's acceptance of transgendered people with Christian Bible study.

**Relationships** -- confirmed workshop topics include relating to men and women outside the queer community, and other workshops covering issues of interest to FTM parents and to parents of FTMs.

**Sexualities** -- confirmed are separate workshops on issues and experiences of gay, heterosexual, queer, bisexual, FTM issues and experiences, a general sexualities discussion, sessions on trans-trans intimacies, leathersex, and dating dykes, "Sex Changes" to address SO's issues and experiences of sexuality with their FTM partners, a safer sex education workshop, and "Toying Around" and "Feel Great About Sex" both sponsored by Good Vibrations and conducted by professional sex educator Ray Rea.

**Transition** -- a few of the confirmed sessions are "Long Term-Living in FTM Bodies," "Prosthetics, Products, and Passing," two show-and-tell sessions, a voice workshop, a discussion of the issues of transmen over 40, a workplace issues workshop, and "What Now? Post-Transition Men."

**Health and Therapy** -- a few confirmed highlights: a basic fitness workshop, and Marci Bowers, M.D., will be speaking on gynecological health for transitioning FTMs. Friday there will be a block of programs of special interest to service providers: two linked sessions on therapy with FTM clients, with Kit Rachlin, Ph.D., presenting results of her survey on FTM satisfaction with the therapy we receive and a focused panel discussion about how to provide and improve therapy for FTM clients, as well as sessions on Substance Abuse and Recovery in FTM Populations and HIV/AIDS: Research and Prevention.

**Caucuses, raps and dialogues** -- confirmed highlights include a number of SO sessions, youth issues, youth-adult dialogue, people of color issues, and FTM-MTF dialogue.

**Expanding Our Horizons** -- confirmed are workshops on No-Ho, No-Op, Lo-Do-Ho issues and experiences, alternative identities, transgender butch issues and experiences, transgender butch-FTM understanding, and transgender feminism.

**Of Historical and Academic Interest** -- confirmed are separate presentations on the lives of unsung FTM pioneer Reed Erickson and FTM International founder Louis G. Sullivan (with video clips), the history of transgender activism in Southern California, "The Balkan Sworn Virgin: A Traditional European Transgender," a reading by anthropologist Jason Cromwell, Ph.D., from his forthcoming book about FTMs, and panel discussions about teaching transgender studies, researching FTMs, and the future of transgender studies.

**Community-Building** -- some confirmed topics are starting your own support or social group, overcoming racism in our community, and SO community building.

**Making Culture** -- a few confirmed highlights are workshops on making your own 'zine or newsletter, a reading by mother-authors Mary Boenke and "Just Evelyn," writing and recording our stories, a hands-on workshop to help you create your own gender imagery, a panel of people who are making culture, and a time to meet authors of published books.

**Politics, Advocacy, and Leadership** -- some confirmed session will discuss law enforcement and criminal justice issues, the Gender Identity Disorder

diagnosis, and the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association's "Standards of Care."

A Saturday night highlight will be "The Art of Loren Cameron: Photographs from 'Body Alchemy' and New Works 1999," presented by Jamison Green, past president of FTM International.

Three town hall meetings are scheduled to give us an opportunity to move forward on issues of concern within our community: health care issues, FTM-MTF tensions and alliances, and setting our political agenda.

Two AA meetings will take place during the conference. The program is growing with each minute, and this progress report only given you some samples, so expect much more to choose from when you arrive.

**CULTURE TranArt '99** will be open throughout the conference, thanks to curator Jordy Jones and his assistant Percy Wise. We will also have a video room throughout the conference, curated by Jayson Barsic. To submit artwork for TranArt '99, please contact Jordy Jones at [jordyjones@artjack.com](mailto:jordyjones@artjack.com). To submit your video or to suggest videos for the viewing room, please contact Jayson Barsic at [jaybrd67@aol.com](mailto:jaybrd67@aol.com).

**PARTY! PARTY! PARTY!** Our entertainment director extraordinaire Ilya Pearlman is hard at work so we can throw a fabulous Friday night party at the hotel. Live musical entertainment and dancing! Win a night on the town in "The Dating Game," hosted by the incomparable Kate Bornstein! (If you wish to be a "Dating Game" contestant, there will be Friday afternoon warm-ups and interviews.) Saturday night there will be a reception for the artists exhibiting in TranArt '99, followed by a PFLAG Transgender Network reception. We will let you know about some Saturday night off-site party options when you arrive.

**COMPLIMENTARY SURGERY CONSULTATIONS**  
Michael L. Brownstein, M.D., FACS, has graciously offered to provide complimentary consultations during the conference. If you would like to schedule a consultation with him in advance of the conference, you could call him, toll free, at (877) 255-2081 or email him at [mlb@brownsteinmd.com](mailto:mlb@brownsteinmd.com).

You may also reach Dr. Brownstein through his homepage: <http://www.brownsteinmd.com>.

FORWARD MOTION: Celebrating Cultures, Advocacy, and FTM Lives  
REGISTRATION FORM

Please note: We cannot process online registrations. Please print out this registration form and send it, with your registration check, to: FTMCLA/P.O. Box 922342/Sylmar CA 91392-2342

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Country (if outside USA): \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional registrants (same address): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name for badge: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to volunteer! Area(s) I can help in are: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I have Special Needs (i.e., Sign Language interpreters, wheelchair access, child care, etc. Please be specific)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Registration fees:  
\$ 90 - Postmark 7/1/99 - 9/15/99  
\$125 - at the door Friday  
\$ 75 - at the door Saturday  
\$ 25 - at the door Sunday

T-shirts (additional \$15):  
 Medium  
 Large  
 X-Large  
 XX-Large

Make checks payable (in U.S. funds) to:  
FTMCLA  
P.O. Box 922342  
Sylmar CA 91392-2342

I would like to make this Conference happen and help others attend by my additional donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. (Thank You!)

Help! I may need financial assistance. I can only afford to pay \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

I am planning to stay at the Burbank Hilton for \_\_\_\_\_ nights.

Refund Policy: (must be cancelled in writing)  
100% if postmarked by 8/30/99  
50% if postmarked by 9/30/99  
Bad Check Policy: Writers of bad checks will be liable for all applicable bank charges.

**FORWARD MOTION :**  
Celebrating Cultures, Advocacy, and FTM Lives

**ADVERTISING**

Southern California's FTM community will be hosting FORWARD MOTION: Celebrating Cultures, Advocacy, and FTM Lives, October 8-10, 1999, at the Hilton Burbank Airport. FORWARD MOTION is the fourth conference in a series which started with the groundbreaking First All-FTM Conference of the Americas, spearheaded by FTM International in 1995. Subsequent conferences have been organized by local communities in Seattle and Boston.

Would you be interested in supporting our community and the conference by advertising in FORWARD MOTION's program book? We anticipate approximately 400 registrants.

The page size is 8 1/2" x 11". That means that the ads must fit the dimensions listed next to them. Measurements listed above must include any borders.

Your check for the full amount along with typeset camera ready ad and the completed advertisers' form must be received by September 10, 1999, in order to appear in the FORWARD MOTION program book. We cannot return original ads. Please send camera ready copy, with your check, by U.S. mail to FTMCLA, P.O. Box 922342, Sylmar CA 91392-2342, Attn.: Masen Davis.

For general conference information, please email [Conf99FTM@aol.com](mailto:Conf99FTM@aol.com).

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**FORWARD MOTION :**  
Celebrating Cultures, Advocacy, and FTM Lives

**ADVERTISERS' FORM**

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Ad Size:

___ Back cover \$750	7-1/2" x 9-3/4"
___ Inside back cover \$350	" "
___ Inside front cover \$350	" "
___ Full page \$150	" "
___ Half page \$100	7-1/2" x 4-1/4"
___ Quarter page \$75	3-5/8" x 4-3/4"
___ Business card size \$35	3-5/8" x 2- 7/8"

Deadline: September 10, 1999

Make checks payable in U.S. funds to FTMCLA and send camera ready copy with your check to:

FTMCLA  
P.O. Box 922342  
Sylmar CA 91392-2342  
Attn.: Masen Davis