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Madeline Davis Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual,
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Buffalo Belles

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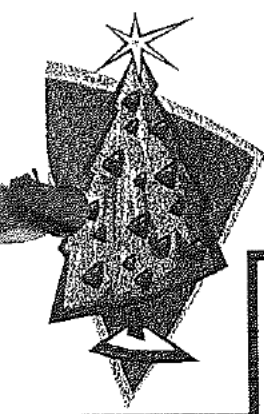


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BUFFALO BELLES



Address Correspondence

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DECEMBER 1998

Sisters in Charge:
CAMILLE
JEAN
KATHY [REDACTED]
PATTI [REDACTED]

Hello, Ladies!

Hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving and that you found many things to be thankful for. I gave thanks for my family, friends, good fortunes and the Buffalo Belles for which I would not be as in touch with my feminine nature. I hope that you, too, are also thankful for the Belles and what they have done for you.

In the coming year we hope to be more interactive with you. By that I mean, we will be presenting more scheduled activities at the meetings such as: guest speakers; movie nights; gender discussions; make-up demonstrations; wig and hair styling workshops. Plus some off-site activities such as: Glamour photo portraits; a dinner with Belles' spouses and partners; trips to Toronto and Niagara-On-The-Lake.

As in the past, if you have an idea about something you'd like the Belles to run or participate in, please share your thoughts with us. What do you need? What do you want? The Buffalo Belles exist for You!

Talking about holidays and getting out, did you go out for Halloween? It's the one time of the year that you can wear anything you like and get away with it. I was able to get together with a few Belles that night and did my version of Monica Lewinsky. The kicker was that a woman friend did the Bill Clinton part! We had fun with that one down at 'Secrets' and 'Club Marcella'. My vote for most clever costume, if not the naughtiest, goes to the guy who went as a farmer and his favorite sheep. A lot of fun

was had by all. (Photos of the costumed capers will be passed around at the upcoming meeting.)

MEETING NEWS

The November meeting on the 7th found eleven members plus two guests present in our upstairs meeting room. One of our guests was Kali Ward, head of the local chapter of PEP (People Exchanging Power). Kali's inquisitive nature helped to enliven much of the discussions that evening.

Among others topics talked about was the upcoming Christmas Party taking place on Saturday, December 5th. The Belles will be providing food and refreshments plus some surprise gifts for everyone! In addition we will have our Santa Belle Grab Bag. Bring an inexpensive (\$5-10) wrapped gift and we'll take turns drawing from the gift bag. And, if you care to, bring a dessert item to pass around.

At the meeting we informed everyone that the Buffalo Belles are now listed in the weekly publication, Artvoice, which has a large distribution throughout western New York.

Well, got to go now. I'm busy preparing for the onslaught of festivities for the holidays. See you at the Belles Christmas Party. Wear something pretty and enjoy yourself!

Hugs,
Camille



* AT THE BELLES CHRISTMAS PARTY WE WILL BE ACCEPTING UNWRAPPED *
* TOYS TO BE DONATED TO THE TOYS FOR TOTS PROGRAM *
* *****

AN ADVENTURE IN DISCOVERY

Hi sisters,

I have written a lot of different communications over the years, but a published author I am not. At the November meeting I let it slip that (a) I could type, (b) I was long winded, (c) I am always looking for an outlet, and (d) as I reach out into "our world" things are happening to me that I would love to share. Well, Camille overheard some of this and asked me to submit a short story (she called it an article) complete with lurid details about my most recent vacation. You be the judge!

One of the avenues of discovery I chose was to write to sisters who had a photo and short bio in TG friendly magazines. I got some nice replies, but a girl in Tennessee was interesting -- she gave me her phone number! Of course, I called -- we talked -- and I invited myself to her place since I had a vacation coming. She peaked my interest for a lot of reasons and I decided that in order to learn more about who I am, it would be a good opportunity to go someplace where I would be accepted and could share with someone who has also "been there". Isn't motivation wonderful?

I started at 2:30 am and drove the 800 miles in record time. When I arrived Sunday afternoon, we both got changed right away and stayed

dressed up until late on Wednesday. I wanted to say thanks, so I donned some male clothes and took her out on a 'date.' What a learning experience that was! We hit three different clubs in the Nashville area and were totally accepted without question (I can look macho when I want). I really learned a lot about myself in a very short time. She also gave me tips on makeup, style and poise. And it was sooooo good to be in close company with a person who is totally non-judgmental.

So, what is the meaning of all this? I waited all my life to get to the point I'm at now. Exploring and reaching out to others is such a positive thing. Some of us are still happy to sit back and enjoy our gift of gender and that is OK -- but it is also the status quo. Get out -- open some doors for yourself -- learn -- share -- exchange thoughts and ideas - you'll feel a lot better and will meet some truly special people along the highway (like I did). Always remember, in our world, discovery is just around the corner - you just have to turn that corner.

Have to sign off now because Camille told me to keep this to 150 words or less -- plus she is going to edit it anyway. Take care -- hope to see you (and talk with you) at the next meeting.

Your sister,
Nancy

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Or E-mail to:
camille1@usa.net

TRANS COMMUNITY NEWS

Cross-dressing Boy Shakes Up Small Private School

By Dan Sewell
The Associated Press

CARROLLTON, Georgia - Patrick Nelson had heard there was a cross-dressing boy enrolled at his high school. But darned if he could figure out just who it was.

"I looked for him the first couple weeks. The honest truth - I didn't even know," Patrick said.

One day, he was talking about the mystery to a friend, who smiled and pointed to the pretty blonde at the desk next to his.

"I said, 'No way, that's too weird!' " Patrick recalled. "Then I thought about it, and I said, 'So what's so weird about that?'"

But while Patrick and his friends were willing to accept "Alex" feminine appearance and mannerisms, others in this rural, conservative western Georgia community of about 20,000 weren't.

And so 15-year-old Alex withdrew from school under pressure, leaving supporters of the popular, easygoing student wondering what threat they had supposedly been protected from.

"Alex wasn't causing any problems. She got along well with everybody," said classmate and friend Meayghan Denkers. "She wasn't trying to change anybody to be like her or anything."

After a heated meeting of the board of the small, private Georgian Country Day School on Oct. 6, Alex was "invited to withdraw" or face expulsion. Alex, who had enrolled in September after attending public school, was cited for wearing a tongue ring, but had been called before school authorities earlier about his female dress, makeup and hairstyle.

Most of Alex's classmates - including some of the

boys - wore bows in their hair in protest until ordered to remove them by the principal. Some indignantly quoted their school handbook, which urges acceptance of "diversity in opinion, culture, ideas, behavioral characteristics, attributes or challenges."

"Alex represents something that's way beyond the experience and the comfort zone of the very conservative people we live with," said Lori Lipoma, Meayghan's mother and a drama teacher at the school. "I really think we all lost something very precious that night."

School officials would not discuss the case. "We make no comments on students," said Rex Camp, chairman of the board of the school, where tuition is more than \$5,000 a year for the 50 or so high school students. Kindergarten and elementary students are in a separate building, but one parent of a 6-year-old expressed concern at the board meeting about Alex's effect on younger children.

"I believe in sexual standards in society, and I want my child in a school that holds the same sexual ethics that I do," said Craig Neal.

Alex, who speaks in a soft, feminine voice, began cross-dressing two years ago and considers himself "95 percent girl."

Larry Harmon, a Dade County, Fla., psychologist who counsels patients on sexual identity, said such feelings appear to fit a rare condition called gender-identity disorder. He said it doesn't necessarily imply homosexuality, and it's difficult to know how many youngsters have it and why.

"I'm not homosexual," Alex said. "I just look like a

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TRANS COMMUNITY NEWS

(Continued from page 3)

girl and I dress like a girl. It wasn't anything flamboyant, not sequins or anything. But because I'm a guy ..."

He enrolled in night school but quit in less than a week because he didn't feel the courses offered would help his education goals. He hopes to pursue a career in fashion merchandising and modeling.

Alex said Thursday he's looking into the possibility of home-schooling.

"I do wish I was still at the Georgian School," he said.

At the Georgian Country Day School - where Alex said he enrolled to get a better education - he struck up a friendship with Meayghan and was soon invited to spend nights over at her house. The first couple of times, Meayghan's mother popped in on them unannounced just in case.

"They'd be sitting there doing hair, or painting nails, and I said to myself, 'This is a girl,'" Lipoma said.

A few weeks into the school year, he and his father were summoned to a meeting with school officials. They said that parents had complained, and that he had to dress like a boy, Alex recalled. He refused and was sent home. A special board meeting followed.

Under the law, a public school would have had to show that Alex was disrupting education or undermining safety. A private school has more leeway.

Alex's mother died when he was young. He said that his cross-dressing initially caused a rift with his father, but that the older man stood with him in the dispute with the board. Mack [redacted] declined an interview.

"School is supposed to be preparing you for life," Alex said. "Parents are trying to protect their kids by covering their eyes. It's going to be a real shock for some of these parents when their kids get out into the real world."

Shanghai Police Detain Cross-Dressing Singers

Reuters, November 12, 1998

SHANGHAI -- Shanghai police detained two male singers for performing in women's clothes and shut down a nightclub on its opening night. Shocked patrons called police to the city's Guoling Dance Hall after discovering two singers wearing make-up and dresses were men, the Xinmin Evening News said in an edition seen on Thursday.

The two performers swayed on stage, stroked their hair coquettishly and batted their eyelids at the audience before breaking into song, the newspaper said. "Unexpectedly, as soon as they opened their red lips, the rough male sound came through the microphone," it said.

The dance hall was immediately plunged into chaos and some patrons rushed out to call police, who dragged the two singers off stage during their performance, the newspaper said. It added that the club had wanted to offer an exciting act for its grand opening.

IT'S COMING!!
TO WESTERN NEW YORK



THE BUFFALO BELLES
COUPLES DINNER

FOR A BETTER YOU...



Makeup Tips

What is a good foundation to use that will not make you look like you've put it on with a putty knife? I have a fairly heavy beard line. Also what is the difference between foundation and concealer?

(Editor's Note: I have a heavy beard and I find that this method works quite well.)

Applying makeup is just like everything else in that practice makes perfect.

To begin with, you will need to accumulate the following supplies. I'm going to be brand-specific because I want you to get the right thing, but what you do with the information is up to you.

1. **Concealer.** I recommend DermaBlend, which can be found at any JC Penny store (their official outlet) or at better cosmetic stores everywhere (locally Bon-Ton carries it as well). Dermablend comes in "Chroma numbers" Chroma 1 is a light beige, Chroma 1.25 is a medium beige. If you cannot find Dermablend, use Pan-Stik by Max Factor as your concealer, which is available everywhere.

2. **Cheap RED Lipstick.** You won't be using this on your lips. A good one is "Wet And Wild" in the shade "535A." You can see the displays of Wet and Wild lipsticks in little racks at the ends of cosmetic aisles in most drug stores.

3. **Foundation.** I have a few choices you might want to consider:
+ Revlon ColorStay. This stuff really has staying power. Once it dries (in about 60 seconds) it won't

come off till you scrub it off with facial cleanser.
+ Max Factor Lasting Performance. This is fairly opaque and tends to stay on well.
+ Almay Sports Formula Tint. This only comes in three shades ("Light" will work for most of you) but it has the advantage of being sweat-proof. Scrubs off with soap and water. This is the one I use most.
+ Revson's Ultimate II Ultimate Coverage. This is the most opaque of all the items in this list and is recommended for problem faces.

4. **Loose Face Powder.** Coty "Translucent Medium" will work for most of you with beige complexions. For lighter skin tones, use "Translucent Light". Be sure to pick up a good powder brush too! :)

5. **Max Factor "Pan Stik."** Some of you will need this. We will use this if you have a serious problem with dark facial hair shadows even after shaving.

Once you have assembled your supplies, we can get started!

+ Start with a clean-shaven face. I know that should go without saying, but it is very important. Use a

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(Continued from page 5)



good double bladed razor like Gillette Sensor Excel. If you are using an electric, it is time to convert! Use a good Gel shave cream and shave carefully.

+ Make sure your face is completely dry. If necessary, use an astringent such as Witch Hazel to make sure you have removed all oils from the surface of your face.

+ Start with your concealer. Put a few dabs on your cheek and blend thoroughly with your fingers, using circular strokes. This, as with all makeup items, should be a thin coating. Continue to cover the entire beard area in this same manner - one section of face at a time. Like every technique you see here, this takes practice.. lots of practice.

+ Take the cheap lipstick ("Wet and Wild") and dot your face lightly over the beard area. It will look a little like a case of the measles. Blend this into the

Concealer with your fingers. When done, you should have a slight sunburned look to your face over the beard area. If it is too red then you over did it and will need to put a bit more concealer on to even out the color. This is not a joke. The secret is that the red of the lipstick cancels out the bluishness of beard shadow. Women have used this trick to hide bruises and such for many many years. It works.

+ (Optional). Pan Stik. If you have a bad problem with blue shadows even after shaving, you will want to apply Pan Stik at this point. Make several streaks with the stick over your beard area and blend with your fingers to an even coloration. If you use this step, you will now need to wait about 5 minutes for the Pan Stik to "set" before moving on to the next step. If not go directly to applying foundation.

At this point you shouldn't have any blueness from your beard showing through. If not, keep working at it, it just takes some practice.

From "Chrissy [redacted] Bulletproof Makeup Techniques"

Eyeshadow and eyeliner have an intricate relationship when it comes to defining the eye. Picking the right eyeshadow is only one step.

To insure big, beautiful eyes, make sure the eyeliner on the top and bottom of your eye meet at the outer corner. If the eyeliner doesn't meet your eye will look shortened.

Fashion Tip

Why You Should Own a Black Turtleneck

1. Looks great with dark denim jeans.
2. Morphs khakis from sporty to chic.
3. Looks professional with any go-to-work skirt or pants.
4. Turns your favorite slipdress into a sexy skirt (wear it over the dress!).



FOR A BETTER YOU...

Health Tips

With winter at our door step, it's a good time to remind you that using a moisturizer is the most important thing you can do for your skin. The air is drier and your skin takes a bigger beating now than in the warmer months. Besides the benefits of using a moisturizer, some now put a sunscreen in their mix. How does that benefit me you ask? Well, it does in two ways. Sun exposure is a major cause of lines on the face (aging is obviously the other cause). But the sun is often responsible for a far more dangerous condition: skin cancer. It is the most common form of cancer, yet one of the easiest ones to prevent. Using

a sunscreen whenever you are outside can help a lot. So, using a moisturizer with sunscreen achieves two purposes: Keeps you younger looking and helps prevent occurrences of skin cancer.

Some moisturizing products with sunscreen:

- ♦ Eucerin "Facial Moisturizing Lotion"
- ♦ Jergen's "Protective Moisture Lotion"
- ♦ Loreal Plenitude "Future Moisturizer"
- ♦ Lubriderm "Daily UV Lotion"
- ♦ Neutrogena "Healthy Skin Face Lotion"
- ♦ Nivea Visage "Triple Benefit Moisture Lotion"
- ♦ Oil of Olay "Daily UV Protectant"

SANTA DELIVERS...



*MISS...CELLANEOUS
FILES*




A BOOK TO LOOK FOR:



Patrick McCabe "Breakfast On Pluto"
by Patrick McCabe

B r a k / a s t

(Nominated for the 1998
Booker Prize, Britain's
top fiction award)



In McCabe's terrifying novel "The Butcher Boy", the reader was trapped inside the head of a mad, murderous Irish boy. Here again we're parked inside a cranium, this one belonging to Patrick (Pussy) Braden, a transvestite from a country town just south of Northern Ireland. All around him Catholics and Protestants are killing each other, but Patrick can't be bothered. He's too busy hunting for the right pair of heels and humming "Son of a Preacher Man"-because he adores Dusty Springfield, of course, *and* because he thinks the local priest is his dad! Who's stranger - Patrick or the killers all around him? It's not even close. By turns hilariously and pitifully lonely, Patrick is an unforgettable hero.

Review by Malcolm Jones Jr. (Newsweek, 11/16/98)

THINGS THAT MAKE YOU GO
HMMMM

Just a few stories from our nation's Emergency Rooms to prove that fact is stranger than fiction.

- A 28-year old male was brought into the ER after an attempted suicide. The man had swallowed several nitroglycerin pills and a fifth of vodka. When asked about the bruises about his head and chest he said that they were from him ramming himself into the wall in an attempt to make the nitroglycerin explode.

- A young female came to the ER with lower abdominal pain. During the exam and questioning the female denied being sexually active. The doctor gave her a pregnancy test anyway and it came back positive. The doctor went back to the young female's room.

Doctor: "The results of your pregnancy test came back positive. Are you sure you're not sexually active?"

Patient: "Sexually active? No, sir, I just lay there."

Doctor: "I see. Well, do you know who the father is?"

Patient: "No. Who?"



In an attempt to get useful information to as many people in our TG community as possible, I am asking for your help in assembling a list of "Gender Friendly Shops & Services". In your travels around the Western New York area have you met a helpful, cordial and/or courteous staff when you went looking for items or services? Did they make you feel welcome to be in their establishment? Or were they just tolerant? Did your experience with the shop or service happen when you were dressed en femme or not? Your experience can help others who are now embarking on their discovery of their femme self.

Please enter your choices on the list below and mail it to the Belles PO Box. Or give it to me at the next Belles meeting. Responses will be put in a list to be made available to everyone. Thanks, - Camille.

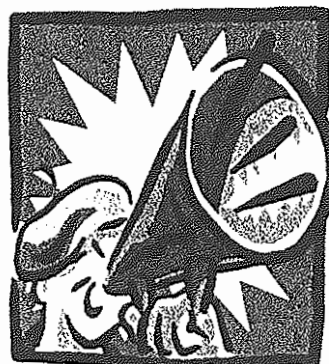
Gender Friendly Shops & Services:

STORES: (Department, clothing, shoe, eyeglass, consignment, etc)

SERVICES: (alterations, electrolysis, churches, therapists, counselors, etc.)

RESTAURANTS & BARS:

OTHER:



COMING EVENTS



- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| DECEMBER 5 | *BUFFALO BELLES ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY |
| DECEMBER 12 | *IMPERIAL COURT HONORS AWARDS & DINNER
HAMLIN HOUSE, 432 FRANKLIN ST. BUFFALO |
| DECEMBER 19 | *ERIE SISTERS CHRISTMAS PARTY
ERIE, PA |
| | *PEP CHRISTMAS PARTY AT COMPTONS
(1239 Niagara St, Buffalo) |
| DECEMBER 20 | *SECRETS' CHRISTMAS PARTY 8:00pm |
| JANUARY 2, 1999 | *BUFFALO BELLES MEETING 7:00pm |
| MARCH 18-21, '99 | *IFGE ANNUAL CONVENTION,
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY |
| MAY 13-15, '99 | *TRANS AMERICA CONFERENCE
CHARLOTTE, N. CAROLINA |
| JUNE 2-6, '99 | *17th ANNUAL BE-ALL CONVENTION
CLEVELAND, OHIO |



Well, my dears, I hope you'll be attending our Christmas Party. The thing that will make it marvelous is YOU!

And please bring your spouse or partner. Come enjoy the evening and the company of people you have not seen in a long time. And for a bit more fun, bring a gift (no more than \$5-\$10) for the Belles Santa Grab Bag.

See you there!