



Briefly, thongs in uproar over thongs on bridal registry

There is a line, people, when it comes to showing some class, so obviously I'm not talking about a panty line.

When "American Idol" winner **Kris Allen** married **Katy O'Connell** in 2008, their Target gift registry included a package of thong underwear. Specifically : "GOM THONGS 3PK ANGEL PINK MESH, GILLIGAN & O, ANGEL PINK, SMALL." Inclusion of this item (among the toaster, Crock-Pot and assorted bakeware products) may be an indication that while Allen and O'Connell were old enough to get married, they weren't mature enough. Just because Target stocks an item does not mean you should ask for it. Who would ask friends to buy their intimate underwear as a bridal gift? This was the bridal registry, not the bachelorette party!

Posting an item Tuesday about the thong entry has caused a minor stir and a flurry of antagonistic e-mail. Did any of you e-mail TMZ.com whose TV show broke the original Allen thong story? I had a little fun with Allen being a Christian and from Arkansas and how a thong seemed inconsistent with the latter capitalized nouns. Thank you for going nuts, readers.

E-mail from a Katie Bower indicated that she picked up the clues that I was yanking your chain.

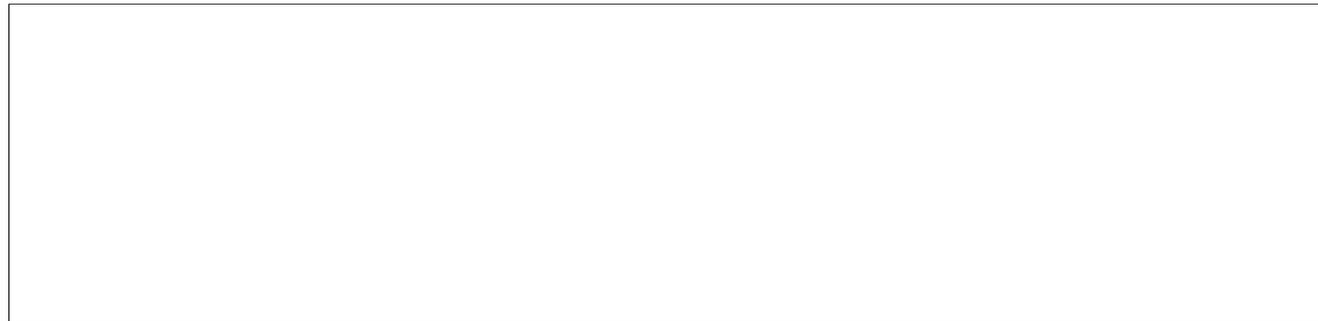
"You're not the only one who's surprised by thongs and Christians," Bower wrote. "Check out this video. It's really funny" -- tinyurl.com/5ktvr7. It's a thong skit by Sister Myotis.

I also spent some time Tuesday asking 20 strangers and people I know if they would include a thong on their bridal registry. To a man and woman, all members of my focus group said this was an extremely offensive, tacky entry. One of my dearest friends, a serious Christian, outed herself as an avid thong-enthusiast and said she was not amused by me drawing a line between thong-wearers and Christians. Whatever.

I assumed that the inclusion of a thong on these young people's gift registry was an act of web-hijinks. Target mouthpiece **Delia McLinden** said: "Out of respect for the privacy of our guests, we can't comment on anyone's registry. We have a very secure system." Again, whatever.

When I went to Target to view the registry item, they were sold out. That's why I fell like a chump for the e-mail from a Peggy

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Mills, who claimed the thongs in question were "slippers. Believe it or not, we wear shoes and thongs in Arkansas."

I immediately phoned TMZ producer **Dennis Broad**, asking whether these thongs were actually the footwear sometimes called flip-flops. Broad assured me TMZ knows what it is doing. My Strib colleague **Paul Walsh** beautifully shot down Peggy's specious e-mail with this: "Gilligan & O'Malley only makes intimate clothing. No thongs that you wear on your feet unless you have a foot fetish!" Finding the best

A computer was kicking VIP Hair & Nails owner **Tiffany Wilson's** butt like one of her favorite workouts at The Firm.

Wilson was getting frustrated trying to send a photo to CNN's Dr. **Sanjay Gupta**, she reluctantly disclosed. One of Gupta's producers called to ask Wilson to participate in what she believes is a Web-only article about skin cancer in blacks, scheduled to be posted Friday. CNN contacted Twin Cities dermatologist **Dr. Charles Crutchfield III**, who referred the network to one of his most beautiful patients. Said Wilson: "I just talked [to CNN.com] about how they discovered skin cancer on my hip. I thought it was a

pimple initially. Dr. Crutchfield is a great doctor. He has my back." And thankfully, your hip. Slow the delivery

Fancy Ray McCloney needs to slow his act.

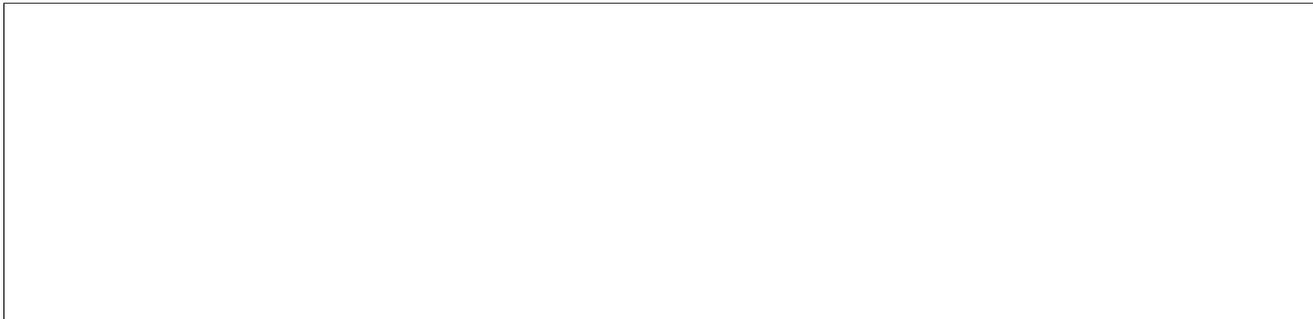
Went to see one of the 20th anniversary shows being performed by the self-proclaimed "Best Lookin' Man in Comedy," at St. Paul's Holiday Inn on Burns Avenue. Afterward, he wanted my thoughts. There were a half-dozen new jokes, always a good thing because some comedians go for years without changing a word of their acts. I asked Ray to slow his delivery because he talks so fast that perfectly good punch lines get garbled. "You don't understand," he said. "I get so excited when I'm up there. I draw off the audience. I feed off the audience's energy."

I don't know what he was talking about; there were nine people in the club.

Fancy Ray said that was because of the Memorial Day weekend. So I'm going back for the buffalo wings, which where workin' for me, and if he seems to have calmed down, I might stay for his act.

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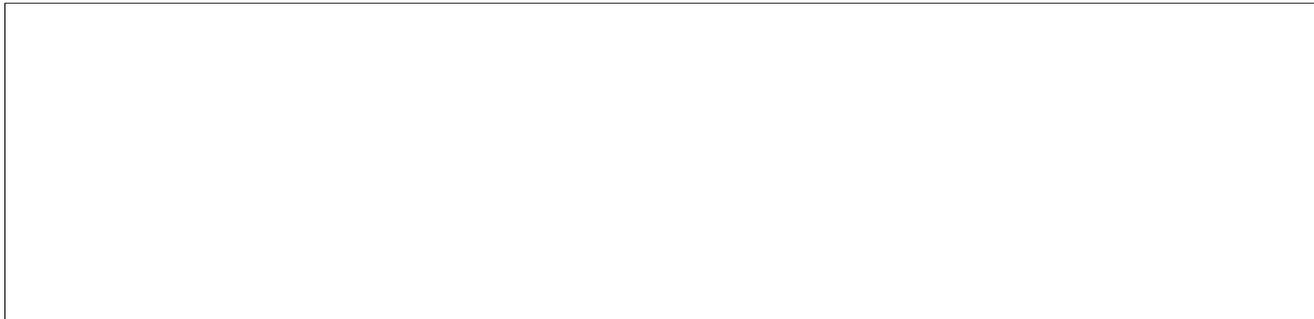


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com. E-mailers, please state a subject -- "Hello" doesn't count. Attachments are not opened, so don't even try. More of her attitude can be seen on Fox 9 Thursday mornings.

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