



MAN AT HIS BEST

Do you have any statistics concerning the number of women who don't wear any panties? How common is my girlfriend's habit?

Something very intriguing happened while chasing this seemingly benign human-interest story: My reporters and I had many a door slammed in our faces. Only the online underwear conglomerate Freshpair, which, incidentally, is the driving force behind National Underwear Day (when we pause to honor the brave men who lost their lives in the Battle of Wyfront on August 10, 1863), was willing to speak freely. A spokesperson there told us that according to Freshpair's recent poll of 20,000 men and women, 6 percent of women claimed to go au naturel, which translates to either 60 or 12,000. (My calculator doesn't do "percent.") But when we asked British department store Marks & Spencer about a report of its recent survey concluding that 13 percent of UK women go knickerless to work, they told us to bugger off. (And quite rudely, I should say.) Even the Intimate Apparel Council (which was reportedly in session at the time) refused to comment. It was becoming clear that not only was there a cover-up, it went all the way to the top, and bottom. However an anonymous source (Diane Sawyer) kept imploring us to "follow the thong," and I can now say with absolute certainty that 50 percent of the Bush twins go commando 90 percent of the time.