

**TODD ROBBINS**

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doing what they could do. Because you're never so alive as when you're scared to death. So we did that show here. It did very well. And actually we're going to be doing it again in Los Angeles, it looks like in the fall. The name of the show is *Play Dead*.

**You have so many areas of expertise—magic, sideshow, con artistry, ragtime piano, etc. Do you tend to focus on one thing at a time? For example, do you go through a phase with one activity, get bored, then try something different?**

It's very much the old plate-spinning acts that you used to see on the Ed Sullivan Show where they'd have a stick and they'd put a plate on it and they'd spin it, and then you'd go on to another plate and you'd spin that, and then you'd have to come back and get the first one because that's now wobbling. I'll be working on, like, *Play Dead* and then go off and ring master a circus down in Florida for a month and then come back and play piano in a saloon in New York, and I just got back from Detroit doing a show about con artistry. So it's always something interesting. It's that variety that's kept me. If I was doing just one thing I'd probably get burned out and lose interest. So tonight, I'm one of the producers of New York's longest-running magic show *Monday Night Magic*. I'll be MCing the show tonight. And then I'll go home and sit at the piano for an hour playing ragtime and working on a couple of old, almost forgotten songs. One of them is a great old thing called "Willie the Weeper," which was about a chimney sweeper who had the dope habit, had it bad. He went down to the hop shop in Chinatown and smoked so many pills of opium that when he woke up he was on

a foreign shore and all of his dreams came true. It's a lovely old folk song that was from this very area. It was the kind of thing that ties into the culture that the *Police Gazette* chronicled so well.

**Richard K. Fox had Chuck Connors, the "mayor of Chinatown," writing articles for the *Police Gazette*.**

Exactly. And stayed in his apartment that he had in Chinatown.

**Any other future projects?**

Yeah, I've got a nice little development deal with a major producer of reality TV shows. They're interested in taking something of my world and developing it. It might be a sideshow thing. It's very funny because you see all these ghost-hunting shows and for the most part there's nothing there. They walk around in night vision getting the willies and something beeps or they hear a weird little sound—although heavily manipulated—that sort of sounds like a voice kind of maybe. And the idea is if I go ghost hunting, walls are going to bleed. With my background, ghosts will show up. And it will be hopefully a very entertaining and terrifying experience.

**We have a horror-movie maker in Binghamton whose next release will be about that: What if TV ghost hunters actually found what they were looking for?**

Exactly. Who knows what is to be found? And there's one of these guys who is a ghost hunter putting together a live show that we're going to be doing—we're going to give it a try—at some haunted estate up in Rhode Island coming up in April. I don't even know the dates or exactly where. But he just contacted me and said "Hey, would you like to be part of this?" I said "Sure, why not? I've got a little time right now to play with." So that's what we're doing.

## Police Gazette Horoscope for March

**Capricorn** (the goat) Dec 22-Jan 19

Watch the mail for a letter that could change your life, if you act quickly. Trust your uncle Rico even though he has steered you wrong in the past. He will make up for all past losses with this latest scheme!

**Aquarius** (the water bearer) Jan 20-Feb 18

Two wrongs don't make a right, but they **COULD** make a nice profit! Listen to old cellmates' plans, for they could usher in a windfall.

**Pisces** (the fish) Feb 19-Mar 20

A man in a purple shirt is not to be trusted. 3 and 6 are the numbers that lead the way. Keep a sharp eye and sharper blade this month.

**Aries** (the ram) Mar 21-Apr 19

Something overheard in a coffee shop could lead to disaster this month. Avoid boiled seafood and streetcars like the plague. Someone who calls herself "Aunt" is carrying a large amount of cash... look for shadows.

**Taurus** (the bull) Apr 20-May 20

Do you faint at the sight of blood? If so, steer clear of barbershops and birthday parties for the next few weeks. Two men and a baby are **NOT** interested in romance, so keep your lips sealed!

**Gemini** (the twins) May 21-Jun 21

Surely it will all come out in the wash.... Just keep pouring more bleach in the load. 77 and 14 were meant to be trusted, so open up!

**Cancer** (the crab) Jun 22-Jul 22

Fifteen men on a dead man's chest is more than

just an old song, so any street-gang initiations could turn ugly for you. If your mother's birthday is this month don't forget flowers and a fifth of her favorite strong drink.

**Leo** (the lion) Jul 23-Aug 22

Listen to your heart when it comes to a major decision this month. Don't listen to your cellmates. Especially Vinnie. He wants to take advantage of your assets.

**Virgo** (the virgin) Aug 23-Sep 22

Take that emergency fund stashed in the shoebox in the freezer, and lay low in Mexico for a while. When a woman named Lolita asks you for a light in Guadalajara, give her the light and more. She holds the keys to eternal happiness.

**Libra** (the scales) Sep 23-Oct 22

Leave that dead-end job in search of that impossible dream you've been dreaming. Give your boss a big hug, and then sail onwards to new opportunities with a skip in your step and his wallet in your pocket.

**Scorpio** (the scorpion) Oct 23-Nov 21

The time has come to try out your skills as an amateur locksmith. Start out small and trust nobody. Your payday will come in the form of an '83 Volvo in the parking lot of the local laundromat.

**Sagittarius** (the archer) Nov 22-Dec 21

Love becomes dangerous this month when you unknowingly fall in love with someone who is already taken. Keep your doors locked; hang on to her for dear life. She'll be well worth the bumps and bruises.

## NEW WORLD RECORDS

**Largest Gathering of People with Mohican Hairstyles**

257 people in Dublin, Ireland, had their heads shaved into Mohawks at the same time in the same place as part of a radio station's charity drive.

**World's Largest Crocodile In Captivity Dies**

Lolong, which had been living at a research center in The Philippines, was 20 feet 3 inches. The title of Largest Crocodile in Captivity now reverts to Cassius, who is an 18-footer.

**World's Biggest Rocky Road Ice Cream**

The Darrell Lea company of Australia has created the world's biggest dish of rocky road ice cream. The chocolate treat ended up 18 feet 4 inches long, 6 feet 9 inches wide, nearly 2 inches high, and weighed in at 576 lbs.

**Courtesy of Guinness World Records**

Visit [www.GuinnessWorldRecords.com](http://www.GuinnessWorldRecords.com)

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**UNIVERSITY Nightlife BINGHAMTON**

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## Limerick of the Month

A masculine fellow named Morris Declared, when he found the clitoris,

That with this detail, He'd become Supreme Male. But was kicked in the face by Chuck Norris. Like to submit a limerick? Write letters@policegazette.us. Maybe we'll use it!



The opinion of Paul Juser's graffiti artist of Binghamton Police Chief Joseph Zikuski.