

Our Dear Mr. Lagler As Seen Through the Oracle



A collection of excerpts from the following Oracles:

Fall 1972	October 1973	Winter 1973	October 14, 1983	December 15, 1983
October 19, 1984	October 18, 1985	April 1996	May 1996	November 1997
December 1997	White Issue 1988	April 1, 1999		

**AN APOLOGY TO MR. LAGLER, MR. BRAY,
AND MR. ALEXANDER**

We are sorry that the articles written on you were not found in this edition of the ORACLE. Due to problems with apathetic workers and mixed-up articles, the articles were lost somewhere in the process of typing.

We hope you have no hard feelings.

THE EDITORS

WEBB SOCCER

On September 5, 1972, the Webb soccer team was supposedly ready to start practice. But, three months of summer vacation and the extra curricular activities of that season made sure we were out of shape and lazy. Mr. Johnson was determined to get us into shape before Mr. Lagler arrived from New Hampshire. Therefore, he put us through two months of boot camp training in two weeks. We were finally in shape and we even had several scrimmage games.

The two weeks of pre-season conditioning paid off in our games; not so much in the scoring, but at least we were not run off the field.

We had several new players this year including Fay "Stump" Binning. Fay, along with Steve Peters, was the team captain.

Much of the team will be returning next year and it looks like we will have an excellent season.

Robin Mason, '74

SPORTS



Hall and Barber advance the ball against C.D.S.

Cleveland Loses to Webb Feet

On Friday, October 26, the Feet travelled to Cleveland Day School to play the game they had long been awaiting. This was probably the most exciting game played in the conference all season. Mr. Lagler had aroused so much spirit (if not anger) in his team for this game because the notorious "Trojans" of C.D.S. had previously swiped a victory from the Feet, and long since had had an injured reputation with teams in the conference. Yet on this day the Feet would not be denied victory; it seems therefore only proper to add that "this was their finest hour."

While the first game with Cleveland Day School was primarily a defensive battle, it was made evident early in this game that the Feet were going to keep the ball close to the opposing team's goal. Mark Conway was first in the line of scorers. A well-placed pass gave Mark excellent position to score, and when the ball met the nylon his reaction was, "Yeah, baby!!" Yeah baby—that about sums up my feelings for the whole game; I felt confident that I may speak for the rest of the team. At this point, night fell on Cleveland Day. Yet the sun shone brightly for Webb; but the Feet were not satisfied with a one point lead. Next in the line of scorers was Richard Barber, one who is surely on hostile terms with many goalies. Before the half ended, Cleveland had one fallie on the sheets, and the score was 2-1.

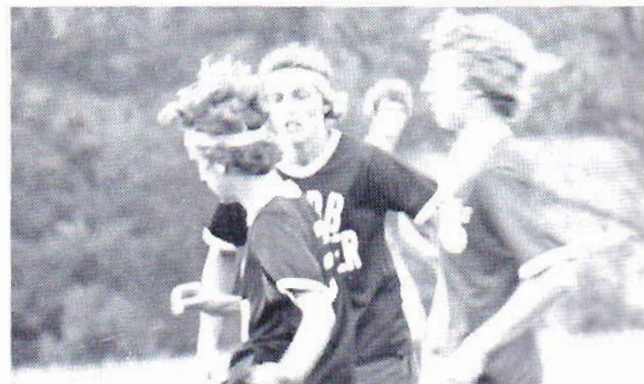
Too often the fame falls on the offensive unit on a team — in any sport — this is unrealistic. In the second half of this

particular game, however, I'm sure the Feet's defense was noted. Cleveland Day returned from half-time with brutish ambition, which kept the defense busy. Fay Binning, Mike Giddings, Holt Hall, Kendall Hayes, Steve Lynn, and Frank Barton contributed outstanding effort on defense. But the offensive game was not over; late in the third quarter, George Johnson followed up a shot for an easy score. The "Trojans" were unable to fight back against the Feet, and the final score was 3-1.

Defeating a rival like Cleveland Day School was new to most of the team. Mr. Lagler, on the other hand, is experienced, and he knew how to prepare us for this game. He may not know it, but through his warmth, spirit, and experience as a soccer coach, he developed close relationships with many of the players.

Perhaps this is why so many are enjoying soccer these days! (Beware Mr. Johnson) Anyway, winning this game was really special—a good feeling inside. Get high on sports? Maybe.

Moe Hill '74



Mason scampers through trouble.



Steve Lynn faces his problems head on.

MR. LAGLER - A NEW ADDITION

Mr. Imre Lagler is the newest member of the Webb School faculty; he is the well-established director of the language department. During the academic day, his time is filled with four periods of Latin classes.

He was born in the small village of Ripcevis and received his formal education in Hungarian and Austrian schools. At the University of Innsbruck in Austria, Mr. Lagler received his Masters Degree in history. After the revolution began he slipped out of Hungary and sailed overseas to America. Eager to start school again, he enrolled in Princeton Institute, where he took advanced studies in Literature and the German Language. Next he enrolled in the University of New Hampshire and completed his German studies.

He accepted a job at Friends Academy in North Dartmouth, Massachusetts for two years and then switched to Derryfield School in Manchester, New Hampshire for a period of seven years. There he taught German and Latin. That's the location from which Webb obtained their new Latin teacher.

When asked if he liked the rural town of Bell Buckle, he remarked, "I'm not crazy about this place, but I try to enjoy it."

When asked what his plans for the language department, he replied that next year he was going to restart the German language and bring on Russian in two years, but first the Latin and French are going to be improved.

Latley Mr. Lagler has started a Communism Seminar in which he tells students the true facts about the Communist movement. He feels very strongly against it and is all behind the democracy of our nation; but he is worried about the danger that it is in today.

Mr. Lagler now lives with his wife and two children, Imi and Zsolti, in the house on the faculty road which was once occupied by Mr. Alan Zerla.

Jim Hawkins '74

Soccer

By LANCE McKNIGHT

With the start of school came the start of the soccer season. The largest crowd in recent memory gathered for the try-outs Thursday, September 8. Although only 24 or so may go on away trips, nearly 40 players dress out for home games.

This year's team will apparently keep up the soccer Feet winning tradition of late.

On a very poor field — some said it resembled a lunar landscape — the Feet fought to a scoreless tie with Chattanooga Christian.

Returning home, the Feet earned another tie, but this one was far more gratifying. The opponent was Tennessee Temple, and it has been years since the Feet have even tied this team. Greg Ross scored two goals, with Mashiur Rahman and Jim Roberts each scoring one. With this kind of offense and

some great plays by goalie Dino Mauricio, the Feet tied perhaps the best team in the district.

Following this second hard earned tie, the Feet went on the road again, beating TMI of Sweetwater, 2-0. Greg Ross scored both goals.

October 4, the Webb Feet came home to take on a powerful non-district team, University Heights. After a hard fought and scoreless first half, Masiur Rahman scored in the second half and the defense held, Webb winning 1-0.

Despite injuries and the loss of several key players, the soccer Feet have put together a successful first half of the season. Our congratulations to Mr. Lagler, the two assistant coaches, Lee Woosley and William Cocke, and, of course, to the players.

Mr. Lagler offers last minute instructions to his players.





photo by David Hardman

Left to right, bottom row; Peter Erichsen, Bruce Pimetal, Jitsuko Ohgihara, Mashiur Rahman, Mr. Imre Lagler, Scott Mason. Top row; Thomas Roche, Mizanur Rahman, Fabio Rigo, Stuart Anderson, Matt Brooks (partially hidden), David Terceira, Ben Vanderford, Hung Sung Lu, Iain Brackstone, Mustafa Hamid, Dih Lu.

"Have you hugged your teacher today?"

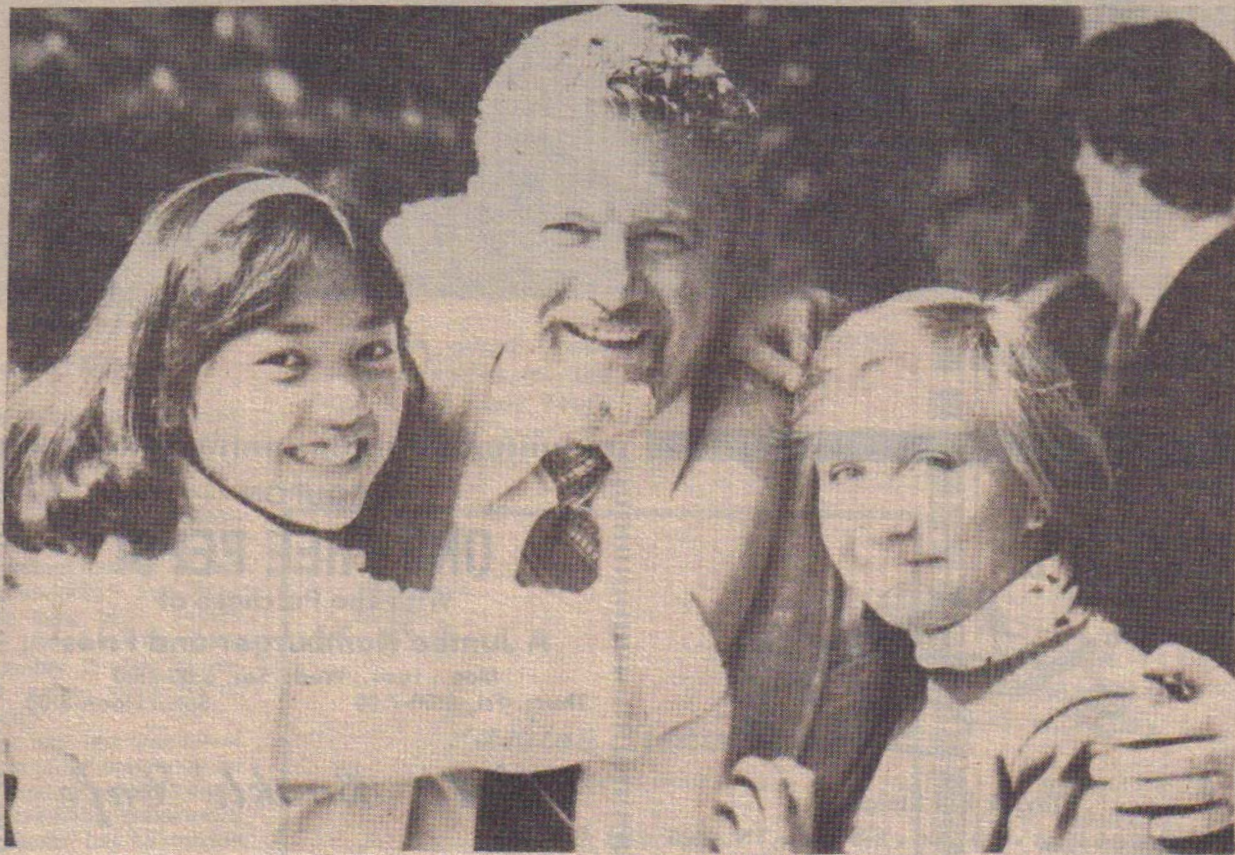


photo by David McElroy

Soccer -

By **JEFF RAY** and
STEPHANIE JENNINGS

The 1984 soccer season began the same way as it always does. Coach Lagler had the team running wind sprints, hill sprints, and 2 miles by the second day of practice. Assistant Coach Fox, formerly of Swannee, TN., started the team on an odd series of stretches and exercises that included running the length of the soccer field backwards.

The results of these efforts were apparent almost immediately. The first game was played on the 18th of September against University Heights School. With the help of 2 goals by senior starter, Steve Neuhaus and 1 by junior, Greg Ross, the Feet won the game 3-2. This was an auspicious start for a team that halfback Harry Elliott describes as "awesome."

The co-captains of the team this year are seniors Jeff Wooden and Steve Neuhaus. They were elected by the team members. Steve has played for 2 years and Jeff has played for 3.

"The team is very well balanced this year and has a lot of depth," says Steve Neuhaus.

Co-captain Jeff Wooden adds that "new players such as Lyle Petzack and Peter Fontaine will really be adding a lot to the team this season."

Both co-captains believe that the added leadership of new assistant coach Ed Fox will help direct the team to some important wins, and they both see the chances for returning to the state-tournament this year as very good.

Senior player Harry Elliott was asked about the team after its third straight win on Sept. 25, against Chattanooga Christian.

"The front line is incredible with Steve Neuhaus at the point," said Harry. He went on to say that "the defense is equally strong."

Both coaches believe that the team is much stronger than last year. Coach Fox believes that the team has no stars, but is working together solidly. Coach Fox says that he is "positive of a winning season."



Mr. Fox observes the soccer action; Mr. Lagler, the cheerleaders.



Soccer -

By Iain Brackstone

At Webb, the advent of fall is synonymous with soccer. Leading this year's team are veterans: Pete Fontaine, Iain Brackstone, and Dino Mauricio. As a co-captain and forward, Pete has demonstrated new methods of ball control in hope of revitalizing the Webb game plan. Iain, also a forward, augments the team's potency with more traditional soccer skills. Dino, co-captain and goalkeeper, continues to provide formidable defenses for every game. The team is comprised of experienced players and novices alike. Leadership extends to senior Matt Hull and Junior Lyle Petznick, both of whom remain outstanding in their positions. Coach Imre

Lagler and Asst. Coach Ed Fox expect the team to win the rest of its games.

Above all, the Webb Feet soccer team will be determined to work as hard as possible to assert the school's history of soccer success. Inevitably, the games will allow the players to accept the very spirits of interscholastic competition which exhilarate them. At the same time, the games invite spectators also to participate; Webb spirit is as valuable as players themselves. Certainly, if Pete doesn't get hurt, if Iain doesn't get thrown off the field, if Lyle is able to play, and if everyone combines Dino's effort with Matt's will to win, then the Webb Feet will go all the way!



The
Agony
of
De-Feet



Soccer -

by Jeff Gentry

and D.T. Brown

Despite little pre-season practice, the Webb soccer team came out smoking. Webb traveled to Asheville, N.C. to open their season in a tournament hosted by the Providence Day School. Chris Cox scored the winning goal against Providence sending the team into the second round. Webb lost the second game and key starters Lyle Petznick and Richard Williamson to injuries. Dickie Arendsz scored for Webb in the second game. Webb, in a tough dry spell, lost games three and four to Tennessee Temple and Westminster. However, Webb quickly rebounded, soundly defeating Lee Highway Academy 10 to 1. The entire team

contributed to the victory and stand out James Anderson scored four goals. Following this sizeable victory, Webb lost a tough game to Randolph Academy. Several Webb players had other commitments and were unable to attend the game. Enrique Polavieja scored Webb's only goal.

Following that succession of games on the road, the team parked it in Bell Buckle for a stretch of games at home. Webb fans were not disappointed. In a rematch against Tennessee Temple, Webb was victorious 3 to 2. New comer Carey Coleman fired in two goals for Webb, while Enrique Polavieja added one more. In a second rematch at home

the soccer team decisively defeated Westminster-Huntsville 6 to 3, avenging a 3 to 2 loss earlier in the season. The victory was described as a team effort. Webb currently sports a 5 to 3 record and faces two difficult upcoming games.

The head coach for the Webb soccer team is Mr. Imre Lagler. The assistant coach is Mr. Ed. Fox. The team captains are Wes McAden and Lyle Petznick. On the injured reserve list is Richard Williamson. The team managers are Allyn Blanton and Liz Woodruff. These people and the many team members have given Webb a very exciting soccer season with still more to come.

right) Crit Wilmoth
kicks from the corner.



Sports Feats



Above) Chargin' Charlie Goodman and P.J. Jayakody are about to put the moves on a hapless Westminster offense. Below) Matt Nemeth and Dicky Arendsz "fight for de ball" as Mr. Lagler always encourages.





Mr. Lagler attempts to persuade a perspective buyer that she should buy lots of books. The proceeds of the used books will be used to buy new books for Webb's library.

Cooking with Mr. Lagler

by Jennifer Buffett

As a boarding student, I am consoled each morning by the knowledge that a freshly prepared breakfast is awaiting me when I awaken. Sure, institutional food is no nectar and ambrosia, but even recycled eggs and government packaged mixes take proper preparation. With only a twitch of my hand in the direction of the desired dishes, a well-balanced meal is given to me. What will happen when I am thrust into independence and am obligated to create my own sustenance? Will I be forced to live on pork 'n' beans, instant coffee, and tv dinners? No! You and I yet have the opportunity to become gourmet chefs—with the aid of one benevolent Latin teacher.

In ancient Rome, people cooked on raised brick hearths and set large kettles on iron tripods over the fire. However, Mr. Lagler has more modern cooking methods in mind. He proposes to conduct a culinary course in the student center's kitchen since it is spacious and virtually unused. He thinks that six people would be an ideal number; he does not simply want to lec-

ture, but would rather give a demonstration and then allow participants to experiment individually. Basic traditional cuisine will be taught first; Mr. Lagler suggests rice because it is cheap, nourishing, and easy to prepare. The class ideally will be an after-school activity with only a minimal fee for necessary equipment and ingredients. Mr. Lagler does not want this to be limited to "Mr. Lagler's cooking class," but would rather invite all faculty members who have particularly interesting dishes to introduce. When asked what reasons he had for offering this instruction, Mr. Lagler replied, "Most people don't know the basics. They would rather starve than make steps to learn." In order to liberate the frozen food-dependent, Mr. Lagler, a self-educated chef, will teach those whose mothers have neglected to inform them of the mysterious wonders of food. Contrary to popular belief that only the woman's place is in the kitchen, the class will be open to everyone, Mr. Lagler's Latin II students having first priority, of course.



Deep Thoughts From Latin III

by Lauren Parkes, Kristen Linton, Shilpy Dixit, Miranda Morrison, Edward Alsobrook, and Matt Hart.

"But what if they're wrong?" a student pointed out.

"Well, then, that is that!" Mr. Lagler replied.

Last week, during our Latin III class, a strong debate broke out over the issue of the Honor Council. The questionnaire we had filled out earlier that morning in chapel had raised some interesting questions in our minds. How effective is the Honor Council? Is it really fair? While debating, we reached some good conclusions.

"There will be an Honor Council meeting at twelve o'clock in the Bradley Building." That is the most we are allowed to know about the meetings. Is that really fair to the student body? Do we not have the right to know what happens in our community? Our class formed a solution for this problem; either let Honor Council meetings be completely anonymous, or resolve the problem in front of the entire school. During Sawney Webb's time, if the Honor Council found someone guilty of violating the honor code, the president of the Honor Council would make an announcement during chapel. "John Doe, stand up and face your peers. You have been charged with cheating on a test, and your punishment is four demerits." We believe that either of these solutions would be better than leaving us hanging.

Another question we asked ourselves was, "How fair is the Honor Council?" Stu Smith said, "The Honor Code is a good thing, but the Honor Council is being presented to the student body in a bad way." Mr. Lagler stated, "I do not question their fairness, but the teacher's word should not be questioned." The opinion seems to vary with different perspectives.

Though the Honor Council could use some improving, there are many good things about it. The members of the Honor Council do have good intentions. The fact that we have a group of students willing to accept the task of judging their peers says so much about our school and what it

-continued on page 7-

Deep Thoughts, *continued from page 2*

consists of. The Honor Council more than willingly went on a retreat in order to find ways to better itself. We have come to the conclusion that the only real reason one would need the Honor Council is if a student is approached by a teacher about cheating or another offense, and the student denies it. Then, the teacher would have reason for taking the issue to the Honor Council. Otherwise, the issue should stay between the student and the teacher.

Regardless of our different views, all of us agree that the Honor Council is a good thing and should continue existence. However, we have two conclusions; either would be more fair to the student body. Our first idea is to make meetings open to the public, like a trial, but the members of the Honor Council should not talk about the case until after a decision has been made. The other option is that the meetings could be completely secret. That way, students would never have to know that there even *was* a meeting (even though we have a right to know what happens within our so-called community.)

This article contains views and opinions that are not necessarily condoned by Mr. Lagler.

A Short Interview with the Happy Hungarian

by Frank Sutton and Joey Patterson

Many of us at The Webb School know Imre Lagler as an exciting man, but I think very few us know him as well as those who have had him over the years in class. We intend to display a slightly more profound side of Mr. Lagler. I am sure his words are more informative than mine are, and I am more profoundly convinced that enlightenment may present itself in its fittest quality:

How long have you worked here at The Webb School?

Since the Fall of 1972, which makes this my twenty-sixth year.

Did you ever go back to school any when you arrived in the United States?

I graduated from the University of New Hampshire. I also went to MTSU, and among others received a grant from Princeton University.

Do you still continue that sort of quest for knowledge?

I prefer to do studying on my own, but I'd like to learn Spanish perfectly. It would be very easy for me because of Latin and other languages, and I might go to college just to learn it. Really, I need a place were I can speak it and not just learn from the books; I know enough Spanish grammar, but I don't have the ability to carry on conversations.

Do you belong to a Christian denomination?

I have strong faith, however, I won't accept everything in any religion. I don't accept all the teachings in my own religion, but I don't want to talk about what I accept in a religion and what I don't accept in a religion, because I believe sometimes religions make mistakes. I can see that and am not going to accept it. I am happy with my own religion, even though I don't completely agree with it. I wouldn't agree with any religion completely, no

matter what, because I have been influenced by many religions. I've done quite a bit of reading on other religions, but especially in this country I have been exposed to other Christian religions. In my home country seventy-five percent is Catholic and twenty-five percent is Protestant. I have also lived in Austria where the population is ninety-four percent Catholic. Finally, in this country where there are so many different Christian religions, it has opened me up. This country has practically every religion in the world. In a way that's good.

I don't say that my religion is the best. I believe that a person has to do some soul-searching before he can make his own statement. I've been soul-searching in my life as far as religion goes. In some areas I disagree with some Christian teachings.

Would you have any advice to give to the younger generation?

Be open minded, and if any religion doesn't allow you to question things, do a lot of thinking. If you belong to a religion and that religion doesn't allow you to question things, that is because it is a shaky religion that cannot give definite answers. I don't think that any religion can give a definite answer. They might force a certain opinion on you, and I most certainly do not believe in forced opinions. I think you have to question things in order to develop a strong faith, not just because I had been exposed to atheistic teachings in my country. As an individual, you have to have an open mind. I think all major religions have the same goal - to understand God.

Okay Mr. Lagler, I guess the world is dying to know....

What do they want to know?

Well.. not exactly the world - more or less me. What do you really think of Mr. Smith? I know

the two of you have an interesting relationship. I'd like to tell you the truth, but that wouldn't be very professional on my part (laughs), so I just don't say anything.

Oh, ok, I'm pretty curious to know, was there ever a first time when the two of you started fighting?

Well, it was a gradual build-up. It started a long time ago, God knows how long.

Here's one I think everyone is dying to know. Considering you know so many different languages, some partly, what language do you think to yourself in?

Whatever language I speak at the time.

So at the time, say you're speaking Hungarian - do you also think in Hungarian?

Because I don't speak too much Hungarian or German and so on, it takes a little time to get adjusted. You understand. Not as much Hungarian as German.

Do you ever get confused?

Sometimes yes, spelling. If you are in our house, a sentence could be half English and half Hungarian and even mixed with German. Whatever comes easiest to mind.

What language do they speak on K25?
Hungarian.

Mainly Hungarian?

In Hungarian. I've said many times, God speaks all languages, but he prefers to speak either Latin or Hungarian, so I'm pretty close to Him.

So, I can talk to God now, after taking Latin?
Yes

Oh boy, Martha Bennett - what's the story behind Martha Bennett and the so-called sexual harassment charge?
(Laughs)

This is something that is going to resurface in your future?

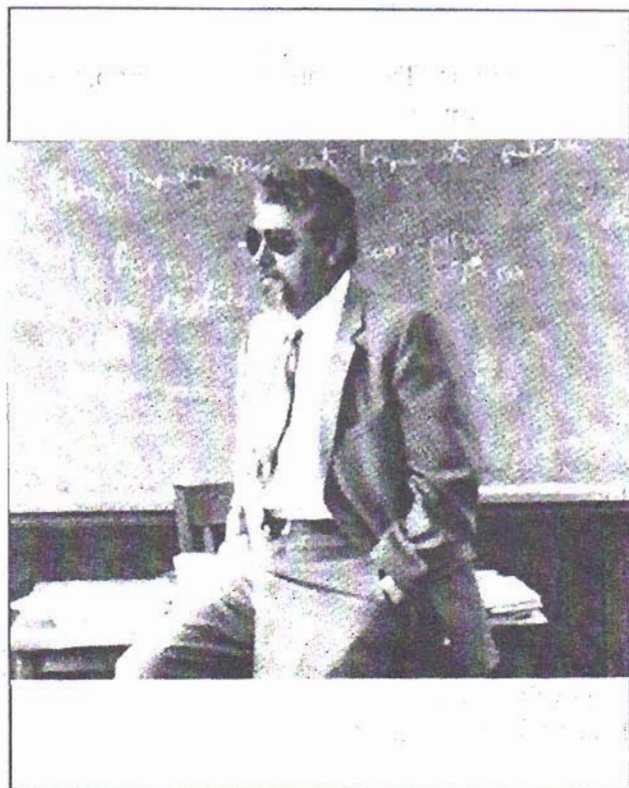
No, there was no harassment. Sometimes people come to me, you know girls, and poke my stomach and Martha never did it but other people do it. They'd say, "Hey, let me do it!" I always say if I do that to the female population they would scream: "HARASSMENT!"

So what exactly happened with Martha? I heard you were bending over, and she couldn't resist herself?

Oh, that was nothing,; it happened in the class room. I don't even remember exactly; somehow she was sitting there and I went to the back and she had to touch me as I went by, and people make a big deal of it. It was nothing, very harmless.

(This is an incident where, allegedly, Martha touched Mr. Lagler's hind section.)

Well I guess that tells you a little about this remarkable man, and for some people it answers some of their biggest questions. The Webb School Oracle highly recommends for people to endure a conversation with Mr. Lagler. Who knows, maybe you will see the light.



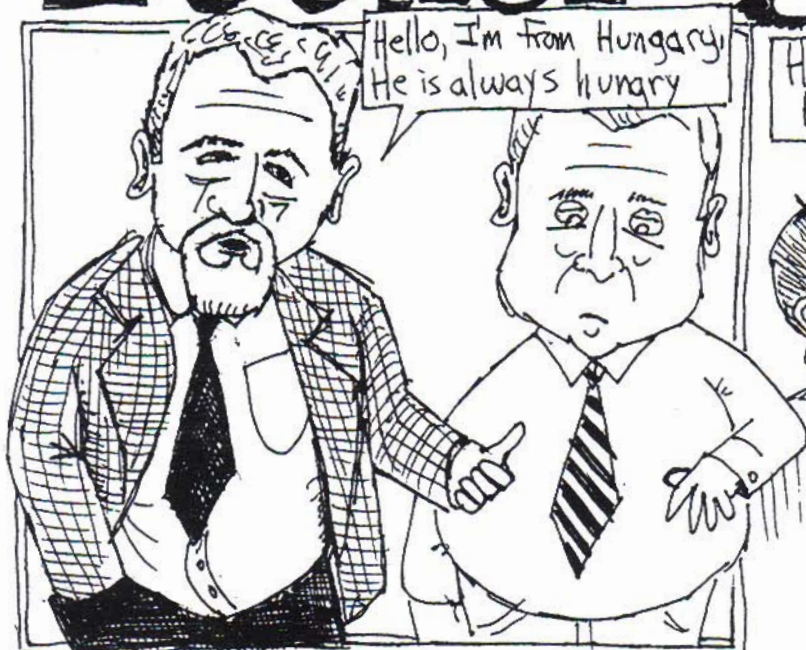
Mr. Lagler: "Listen my seventh grade pupils, I am not an alien!"

Scenes from the FACULTY LOUNGE

STARRING
NICHOLS

and

LAGLER

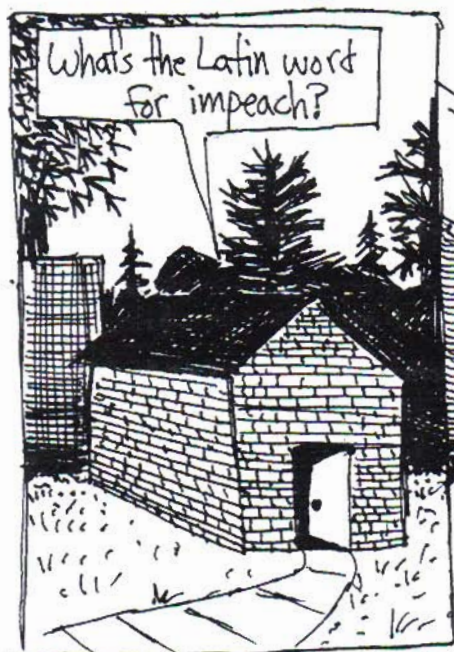


Hello, I'm from Hungary.
He is always hungry

He's a criminal who shouldn't
be able to finish his term



He's a good president who needs
another intern



What's the Latin word
for impeach?



Need a ride to the
Big Room

FALLACE

Mr. Lagler: Because retirement will never be an option for this feisty old man, Mr. Lagler will seek employment at his old Hungarian high school. Unfortunately, however, his qualification statement of, "All the girls will be in love with me!" will not meet the school's requirements. Instead, he will teach Webb School dropouts the art of cooking goulash. Mr. Lagler will also head the Webb chapter of the Young Republican's Society, as well as the local Newt Gingrich Fan Club. He and Mr. Nichols will move into the same house and, together, enjoy translating Mr. Hester's best-seller into Latin.

This document was compiled to Honor the memory of Imre Lagler as depicted by the students in The Oracle, a student publication of the Webb School, Bell Buckle Tennessee.

It is not a complete collection by any means, but is limited to those articles found by a cursory review of available issues by P. Michael Quinn, faculty sponsor of the Oracle 2008-2009. pmquinn@blomand.net

We surely do miss you Imre.