

# Real Short Stories

## Glee club melts a little ice.



During the winter of 1960–1961, when Cold War tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union were high, the Cornell University Glee Club became the first collegiate ensemble from the United States to take a concert tour of the U.S.S.R. In 1966, under the aegis of the U.S. State Department, the Glee Club made a three-month tour of Southeast Asia, where an estimated 100 million people in 10 countries heard them perform. Other tours have included Germany (1970), Eastern Europe (1972), England (1979, 1982), Asia (1989), Western Europe (1992), Venezuela (2001), Brazil (2004), and China (2008), as well as the perennial domestic tours.



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## Soccer-style kicker changes football forever.



Before Peter Gogolak '64, placekicking at all levels of football involved a player wearing a square-toed shoe who would approach the ball straight on. Kickers usually officially played another position, as most rosters didn't have room for a player with a single specialty. Having played soccer in his native Hungary, Gogolak theorized that kicking the oblong spheroid soccer-style would lead to greater accuracy and distance. During his senior Cornell season, Gogolak booted a then-NCAA-record 50-yard fieldgoal against Lehigh. From 1961 to 1963, he also set a major college record with 44 consecutive point-after-touchdown kicks. Within a few years, most placekickers in professional football followed suit, kicking soccer-style, and there have been no straight-on kickers in the National Football League since the mid 1980s. Gogolak also influenced professional football when he jumped from the American Football League's Buffalo Bills to the New York Giants of the NFL, sparking a bidding war for talent between the rival leagues that eventually led to the leagues merging in 1970.

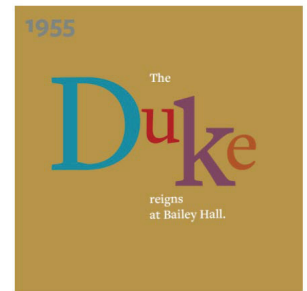


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## The Duke reigns at Bailey Hall.



The famed and fabled Duke Ellington Orchestra dazzled and delighted a near-capacity audience at Bailey Hall on the evening of January 7, 1955. "The great Duke Ellington proved again that musicianship and showmanship are an unbeatable combination," wrote Ed Lincoln in the Cornell Daily Sun. Among the tunes performed were "Mood Indigo," "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," "Perdido," and "Sophisticated Lady."



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## Foraker is right, Roosevelt is wrong.



By 1906, Joseph Foraker, a member of Cornell's first graduating class, was midway through his second term in the U.S. Senate. The former two-term governor of Ohio, Foraker was critical of President Theodore Roosevelt's handling of the Brownsville Affair, in which one resident was killed and a police officer wounded by gunfire in Brownsville, Texas. Local people blamed African American soldiers of the 25th Infantry Battalion, stationed nearby. Despite the denials of their commanding officers and an almost total lack of evidence, Roosevelt ordered 167 soldiers dishonorably discharged and made ineligible for federal employment. Foraker initially believed the soldiers were guilty, but changed his mind the more he examined the incident. His public criticism of the president hastened the end of Foraker's political career. An investigation in the early 1970s cleared the discharged soldiers, who were pardoned with their records restored to show honorable discharges.



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## Amid national turmoil, a university begins.



On April 27, 1865, New York Governor Reuben Fenton signed legislation officially establishing Cornell University's charter. The Civil War had ended just a few weeks earlier on April 9 at Appomattox Court House, Virginia. President Abraham Lincoln died on April 15, the day after being wounded by an assassin's bullet. On the day before Cornell's Charter Day, Lincoln's assassin, John Wilkes Booth, was cornered in a Virginia barn and killed by Union cavalry. On Charter Day, the funeral train carrying Lincoln's coffin stopped in Buffalo, New York, for a public viewing; and the steamboat SS Sultana, exploded and sank in the Mississippi River, killing 1,700 passengers, most of whom were Union survivors of the notorious Andersonville Prison.

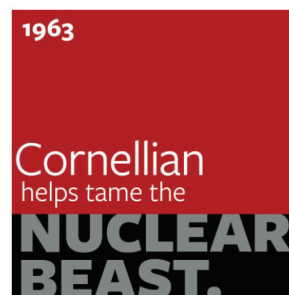


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## Cornellian helps tame the nuclear beast.



Regarded as one of the leading corporate lawyers of his day, Arthur Hobson Dean '21, LLB '23 was an advisor to several U.S. presidents. He helped draft legislation including the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Bankruptcy Act of 1938, the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, and the Investment Company Act of 1940. He was the chief U.S. negotiator at the negotiations to end the Korean War, and served as a delegate to the United Nations. Dean was credited with helping to persuade President Lyndon B. Johnson to stop the bombing of North Vietnam in 1968 and to not seek re-election. In the early 1960s, he served as chief of the delegation to the talks that eventually produced a partial nuclear test-ban treaty in 1963. When President John Kennedy invited him to witness the signing of the treaty in Moscow, he credited Dean's role in the negotiations and said, "After all, it's your treaty."



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