

The New York Times

Late Edition

Today, sun and some clouds, remaining unseasonably cool, high 50. Tonight, partly to mostly cloudy, low 38. Tomorrow, variably cloudy, high 54. Weather map, Page A20.

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SOUTH KOREA COAST GUARD, VIA NEWS1 AND REUTERS

In South Korean Ferry Wreck, Fears of a Rising Toll

More than 280 people, many of them high school students, were missing after a ferry listed and sank on Wednesday. Page A6.

For Diabetics, Health Risks Fall Sharply

By **SABRINA TAVERNISE** and **DENISE GRADY**

Federal researchers on Wednesday reported the first broad national picture of progress against some of the most devastating complications of diabetes, which affects millions of Americans, finding that rates of heart attacks, strokes, kidney failure and amputations fell sharply over the past two decades.

The biggest declines were in the rates of heart attacks and deaths from high blood sugar, which dropped by more than 60 percent from 1990 to 2010, the period studied. While researchers had had patchy indications that outcomes were improving for diabetic patients in recent years, the study, published in The New England Journal of Medicine, documents startling gains.

“This is the first really credible, reliable data that demonstrates a clear trend,” said Dr. David S. Hirsch, a diabetes expert at the University of Michigan. *Continued on Page A15*

Clinton Struggles to Define a Legacy in Progress

By **MARK LANDLER** and **AMY CHOZICK**

WASHINGTON — It was a simple question to someone accustomed to much tougher ones: What was her proudest achievement as secretary of state? But for a moment, Hillary Rodham Clinton, appearing recently before a friendly audience at a women’s forum in Manhattan, seemed flustered.

Mrs. Clinton played an energetic role in virtually every foreign policy issue of President Obama’s first term, advocating generally hawkish views internally while using her celebrity to try to restore America’s global standing after the hit it took during the George W. Bush administration.

But her halting answer suggests a problem that Mrs. Clinton could confront as she recounts her record in Mr. Obama’s cabinet before a possible run for president in 2016: Much of what she labored over so conscientiously is either unfinished business or has gone awry in his second term.

From Russia’s aggression in Ukraine and the grinding civil

war in Syria to the latest impasse in the Middle East peace process, the turbulent world has frustrated Mr. Obama, and is now defying Mrs. Clinton’s attempts to articulate a tangible diplomatic legacy.

“I really see my role as secretary, and, in fact, leadership in general in a democracy, as a relay race,” Mrs. Clinton finally said at the Women in the World meeting, promising to offer specific examples in a memoir she is writing that is scheduled to be released in June. “I mean, you run

the best race you can run, you hand off the baton.”

The relay metaphor has become a recurring theme for Mrs. Clinton during this year of speculation about her future. She did her part, it suggests, but the outcome was out of her hands. And so Mrs. Clinton is striking a delicate balance when discussing a job that would be a critical credential in a presidential race.

On the one hand, she wants credit for the parts of Mr. Obama’s

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Pensioners in Detroit Rejoice, Though Deal Is Far From Done

By **STEVEN YACCINO** and **MONICA DAVEY**

DETROIT — The relief was palpable.

“My pension is my life,” Thomas Berry, a retired police detective, said on Wednesday, reacting to tentative deals that were struck between Detroit, the city’s pension funds and a retirees’ group that would mean no cuts to his current pension checks, though a reduction in annual cost of living increases. “I’m O.K. with that,” Mr. Berry said, “because a month ago, we were going to lose everything.”

A day after Detroit scaled back from the large pension benefit cuts it had once been proposing, the bankrupt city fended off charges from some that it had

simply caved in to retirees in ways that could come back to haunt it. But it also felt the elation of many of its current and former employees who for months had feared a more dire outcome.

“It’s a quantum leap forward from what the pensioners were being offered, that’s for sure,” said Douglas C. Bernstein, a bankruptcy lawyer at the firm of Plunkett Cooney in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., who is not involved in the pension negotiations. “I’m pretty sure that the judge will require them to show that this deal is in fact affordable.”

How it happened is the story of an effort to protect as much as possible

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CASEY KELBAUGH FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

A pair of limited Air Jordans had the teenage traders in negotiation mode at a sneaker fair.

At ‘Sneakerhead’ Fairs, Air Jordans Are Golden

By **GRANT GLICKSON**

With sneakers slung around their shoulders and pockets full of cash, young boys huddle in hotel ballrooms and high school gyms, shouting and bartering as if they belong on a trading room floor.

“What do you want for them?” John Leonardo asked at one recent event in New Jersey.

“What’s your offer?” someone hollered back.

In a flurry of transactions, John, who is only 13 years old, bought, sold or exchanged 20 pairs of designer basketball sneakers and walked away with seven, four more pairs than he started with. His collection’s retail value climbed to \$1,155 from \$340.

John, an eighth-grade student from Manalapan, N.J., and thousands of other teenage “sneakerheads” have formed a thriving subculture using Instagram, Facebook and weekend conven-

tions to spot, sell and trade coveted, sometimes limited edition pairs of basketball shoes.

Teenagers who have grown up with eBay and the Internet have learned the art of trading up, sometimes earning a profit in the process.

Jake White, 14, of Freehold, N.J., has 81 pairs in his collection, helped a lot by gifts from his parents. He estimates they’ve spent \$11,000 on shoes and could prob-

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Ukraine Push Against Rebels Grinds to Halt

By **ANDREW E. KRAMER**

SLOVYANSK, Ukraine — A military operation that the Ukrainian government said would confront pro-Russian militants in the east of the country unraveled in disarray on Wednesday with the entire contingent of 21 armored vehicles that had separated into two columns surrendering or pulling back before nightfall. It was a glaring humiliation for the new government in Kiev.

Though gunshots were fired throughout the day, and continued sporadically through the evening in this town that is occupied by pro-Russian militants, it was unclear whether anybody had been wounded.

One of the armored columns stopped when a crowd of men drinking beer and women yelling taunts and insults gathered on the road before them, and later in the day its commander agreed to hand over the soldiers’ assault rifles to the very separatists they were sent to fight.

Another column from the same ostensibly elite unit, the 25th Dnipropetrovsk paratrooper brigade, surrendered not only its weapons but also the tracked and armored vehicles it had arrived in, letting militants park them as trophies, under a Russian flag, in a central square here.

A pro-Russian militant then climbed into the driver’s seat of

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EYES ON GENEVA Talks beginning Thursday are seen as a key test of Russia’s intentions. PAGE A9

HE SAID, HE SAID Two different versions of Obama-Putin telephone calls emerge. PAGE A9

INTERNATIONAL A6-11

Turkey’s Demand of Twitter

The Turkish government, which at one point blocked the social media site, demanded, among other things, that Twitter reveal the identities of those posting leaks from a corruption inquiry. PAGE A6

NATIONAL A12-15

New Light on Deportations

Data from the Justice Department contrasts with criticism of the Obama administration’s policies: Deportations by immigration courts are down 43 percent since 2009. PAGE A12

Governor’s Bumpy Victory Lap

Rick Perry’s final months as Texas governor have been interrupted by a political and legal problem that could vex him if he runs for president. PAGE A12

NEW YORK A17-21

House and Yard? No, Thanks

Young adults who grew up in the region seem to be lingering longer in New York City, sometimes forsaking suburban life entirely, a report suggests. PAGE A17



HOME D1-8

Bright Spots in Milan

The Milan Furniture Fair offered an array of livable and lovable products. Above, a quirky marble chair. PAGE D1

THURSDAY STYLES E1-10

Catch a Bouquet

For all of those ready to shrug off winter layers, fashion designers are ready with bright floral prints for spring. PAGE E1

BUSINESS DAY B1-10

Barred From Suing Cheerios

General Mills has alerted customers that they cannot take legal action against the company if they download coupons or enter its contests. PAGE B1

SPORTSTHURSDAY B11-16

Shutout Times Two

Masahiro Tanaka struck out 10, and the Yankees shut out the Cubs, then did it again in the second game of a doubleheader behind Michael Pineda. PAGE B11

ARTS C1-8

‘Of Mice and Men’ Opens

Chris O’Dowd and James Franco make their Broadway debuts in this revival. Review by Ben Brantley. PAGE C1

EDITORIAL, OP-ED A22-23

Gail Collins

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