

#### IN YOUR WORDS

##### Evacuating children in Ukraine

The lack of professionalism in the Ukrainian military is not doing Kiev's side any good. Most people in eastern Ukraine do not want to join Russia. Blockades, sieges and artillery strikes will only disenfranchise the average person. When it is necessary, strike hard and fast but avoid endangering bystanders.

LEON C., NEW YORK

It must be stressed that the leaders of these militant movements are not Ukrainian nationals. They are Russian nationals who came from Russia and just appointed themselves the leaders. That does not make them leaders but dictators. Foreign dictators at that. The Ukrainian government needs to work harder with the international community... to ensure that there is safe passage for all who wish to leave these illegally occupied areas, even if that does mean they want to be taken to other cities in Ukraine... Here's hoping these children and their mothers can be taken safely out of harm's way.

MICHAEL BROWN, MASSACHUSETTS

The only solution is a cease-fire followed by negotiations and compromise. The U.S. needs to stop unconditionally supporting Kiev, just as Russia needs to stop unconditionally supporting the separatists.

JOHN DAVIS

##### U.S. soccer's honesty problem

I don't know that it's a sense of far fallacy that prevents American soccer players from embellishing in our "national pastime" (sign stealing, pine tar, corked bats, spitballs etc.)... Rather, I think embellishing isn't embraced by U.S. soccer players because of American ideas about masculinity. It is not considered manly for a grown man to flail about at minor contact.

MICHAEL, FLORIDA

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#### IN OUR PAGES

##### International Herald Tribune

**1880 Improving Africa**  
NEW YORK About \$4,200,000 has been subscribed to build a railway between the Lower Falls on the Congo River and Stanley Pool. How much more will be needed is not known on this side of the Atlantic, but this and other information relating to the plans for the opening of the Congo country will soon be in the possession of C. P. Huntington, the President of the Southern Pacific Railway. Surveys of the route have been made, and the length of the proposed line will be 200 miles. Mr. Huntington is willing to contribute something to kill the slave trade.

##### 1914 Wireless Telephone Wonders

NEW YORK For the first time since it was discovered that messages could be transmitted through the ether without the aid of wires, the human voice from on board a ship at sea was in long communication last night with the Herald office. Every word Dr. G. McCua, inventor of the wireless telephone, uttered from the deck of the old Dominion liner Tynes was heard plainly in the editorial rooms of the Herald by means of the ordinary telephone apparatus now in common use.

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## Faces of the homeless



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW HARRIS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES



ON THE STREETS Andrew Harris, an American photographer and artist, spent the last seven months taking pictures of dozens of homeless people in New York City, creating a series of portraits that focus on the dignified side of a group more often ignored and marginalized.



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## A tough guy puts image before words



### Celestine Bohlen

LETTER FROM EUROPE

PARIS President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia is known for a peculiar muscular pose, carefully cultivated over the past 14 years. He shows it at news conferences or at his desk, standing up or sitting down, not to mention bare-chested on horseback. It's not hard to read the body language: Mr. Putin likes a manly image.

That's an important starting point for his recent extraordinary remarks about Hillary Rodham Clinton. Asked by two French journalists on June 4 about her comparison of Russia's aggression in the 1930s, Mr. Putin scoffed. "It's better not to argue with women," he said. "When people push boundaries too far, it's not because they are strong but because they are weak. But maybe weakness is not the worst quality for a woman."

Leaving aside the blatant sexism, Mr. Putin strayed into what for him is potentially dangerous territory. If pushing boundaries too far is a sign of weakness, then what

to say about Mr. Putin's body language?

Put in a nutshell, it's not always flattering. There's something about Mr. Putin's body language that draws attention, and it's not always flattering. President Obama once described his "slouch" as the behavior of the "lizard kid in the back of the classroom." Mrs. Clinton has described him as a "tough guy with a thin skin." Things got even more personal in 2008 when she said Mr. Putin, as an ex-K.G.B. man, could possibly have a soul. He retorted by saying that "a minimum heads of state should have a head."

"Hard men present hard choices — more so than President Vladimir Putin," Mrs. Clinton wrote in her new book, "Hard Choices." Mr. Putin's behavior with other leaders is often seen as a cue to the quality of his personal relationships with them. In theory, he and Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany should have an excellent rapport; each speaks the other's language, and the two countries have strong economic ties. And yet there's most recently in the thick of the Ukrainian crisis, yet aware of his, Merkel's deep-seated fear of dogs, he let his big, black Labrador Roni into the room with her, even sat her legs, and watched with a peculiarly passive expression.

On the occasions when he and Mr. Obama have sat together for photographs, the chill has been almost visible. Mr. Obama denies that he has a bad relationship with the Russian president, but it is clearly not a good one. For one thing, relations between the United States and Russia are strained. For another, Mr. Obama is a good six inches taller than Mr. Putin, an advantage probably not lost on someone who seems to put such stock in projecting an image of power.

Then again, Mr. Obama is not exactly pood with any of his top leaders. His cool demeanor is both admired and resented by his international counterparts, some of whom remember — not always fondly — the back-slapping bonhomie of his predecessor, George W. Bush. It was, after all, Mr. Bush who in 2001 took the measure of Mr. Putin's soul, and found him to be "very straightforward and trustworthy."

So much for the importance of personal relations. Having established this rapport, Mr. Bush went on to invade Iraq and push vigorous talks for Ukraine and Georgia to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the moves that triggered up relations not only with Russia, but also with France and Germany. In the interview with French television, Mr. Putin reiterated his bottom-line view that the prospect of NATO membership for Ukraine, and in particular the strategic peninsula of Crimea, was something Russia wasn't ready to accept as the crisis escalated last winter.

In the end, international diplomacy has little to do with personal relations — be they warm and fuzzy, or cold and muscular — and everything to do with perceived national interests, timing and capability. But that doesn't mean that leaders shouldn't watch their language.

EMMA PAGEWORTH@nytimes.com

## Casey Kasem, 'Top 40' D.J., dies at 82

BY PAUL VITELLO  
Casey Kasem, a disc jockey who never claimed to love rock 'n' roll but who built a long and lucrative career from it, creating and hosting one of radio's most popular syndicated pop music shows, "American Top 40," died on Sunday in a

### OBITUARY

hospital in Gig Harbor, Wash. He was 82. His death was announced by Danny Dermyan, a spokesman for Mr. Kasem's daughter, Kerri. Mr. Kasem had Lewy body dementia, a progressive disease of the body's neurological and muscle cells. In his final months, Mr. Kasem, who had lived in Beverly Hills, Calif., was at the center of a family legal battle over the terms of his death, pitting his wife, the actress Ann Kasem, against his three adult children from a previous marriage.

Mr. Kasem removed her husband from a Santa Monica nursing home on May 7 and took him to stay with friends in Washington State. By court order, he was moved to the hospital on June 1. Mr. Kasem's "American Top 40," which first aired in the summer of 1970, was a weekly four-hour feast of honey-sweetened and American optimism that ran headlong into the prevailing spirit of

rebellion in the music culture of the day, and an endless store of solid, if cringe-inducing, pieces of advice, like his "touchstone signoff": "Keep your feet on the ground and keep reaching for the stars."

Mr. Kasem also hosted a syndicated television version of the show in the 1980s. But his relationship with "American Top 40" ended in 1988 because of a contract dispute with his syndication company. The next year, he started "Casey's Top 40," a competing radio program on another network, bringing most of his old audience there with him. Mr. Kasem, who continues in that role, Mr. Kasem retired in 2008.

Mr. Kasem, who had a financial interest in his shows, had a net worth estimated by several sources at \$80 million. Rock 'n' roll was never Mr. Kasem's passion, he told interviewers. He kept up with it in a professional way, but when home, he told Billboard, "I find myself just wanting to sit in my office and make it as quiet as possible."

Emma G. Fitzsimmons contributed reporting.

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