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# The Tradition Times

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## Wildfires in Australia

Jacob Brown

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Australian fires have been burning since late December and have still been burning throughout the year. CNN news states that every year Australia has a burning season in their summer due to high temperatures and drought in some areas. Most of the time its natural disasters that are to blame for the fires like dry lightning striking in drought zones, but this year NSW(New South Wales) police have charged 24 people for deliberately starting bushfires. Due to the fires, there have been entire towns engulfed in flames. About 1600 homes have been destroyed and over 600 have been damaged. CNN states that there has been a total of 17.9 million acres that have burned due to the bushfires across Australia. A total of 28 people have died in the fires, including several volunteer firefighters. At least 1 billion animals have been affected across Australia. According to CNN news, almost one-third of the koala population has been killed in the fires, some species like the koalas are in immediate danger of going extinct due to the population being spread out across Australia. According to CNN, there are more than 2,000 firefighters fighting the fires in Australia and the US, Canada, and New Zealand have sent additional firefighters to help fight the fires. The federal government is also sending in military for assistance like air force aircraft, navy cruisers and army personnel to help with firefighting, evacuation, search and rescue and clean up efforts. The fires are suspected to burn until the end of February because that's when temperatures are the highest in Australia's dry summer season. Australia has been getting rain in some areas, but there hasn't been much rain where the fires are burning.

## World War III?

Jaden Lee

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There is fear for world war 3 after Iranian General Soleimani died Friday, Jan., 3 in a drone attack that Donald Trump set up. Iran did not let it go unpunished and shot 25 ballistic missiles near a US base in Iraq on Wednesday, Jan., 8. Soleimani was a very important person in Iran behind Supreme Leader Ayatollah. Americans that are in or close to Iran were told to evacuate. Iran says that they still want to get revenge as shooting at our base was not enough for them. Iran put a \$80 million dollar bounty on Trump's head and says it will not be respecting the restrictions that were laid out in the 2015 nuclear accord. The head of the European Commission came in on Monday and said that Iran must comply with the the 2015 nuclear deal. Trump had already withdrew from the nuclear deal in 2018. Soleimani was a general and the second most important person in Iran. He had built a network of proxies in multiple countries and dominates their politics. It is said that he emulated the Hezbollah model in Syria and Iraq. Hezbollah is a Shiite Muslim political party and militant group based in Lebanon where its extensive security apparatus, political organization, and social services network fostered its reputation as "a state within a state." Soleimani became aware of rising backlash and protests that were calling for an end to sectarianism and chanting "Iran out." A pro-Iranian candidate for prime minister's nomination was rejected by Iraq's President and Soleimani who then took a trip to Baghdad. Shortly after, Trump pushed Soleimani's execution, Iran threatens revenge and the Iraqi parliament votes to expel US forces from its land.

**See WWII pg 3**

# Demoine Adams visits Potter-Dix

Ana Manning

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On Thursday, Jan. 16, our Potter-Dix students K-12 had a guest speaker Demoine Adams, also known as Demo Man. Adams also took the time to talk to the teachers and the community. “Demo” played football for the Nebraska Huskers on a full ride scholarship, and graduated with five minors. After college he went and played for the Canadian NFL, and later was drafted for the American NFL playing for the Green Bay Packers, the Tennessee Titans and the San Francisco 49’ers.

Adams talked about how he accomplished his goals. He clearly stated that you always put “Heart over Hype” and he said just because something may be cool or normal does not make it right. “Leaders create Leaders” he told us to be the one that encourages and is positive, be the one that stands out not because of their talent but because of their heart. He preached on the fact that if you want to be something, you be it! Work hard every day and always do your best to reach your goal.

Adams truly spoke to the audience, by bringing a new light to living your dream and accomplishing your goals no matter what your background may be. As Adams clearly stated “Once you see where you are going, everything you do must correspond with where you’re going”.

# Featured Senior

Ana Manning

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The month’s senior spotlight is Rylan McConnell. He has attended Potter-Dix public schools for two years and he participated in Football his senior year. He enjoys hunting and is currently rebuilding an old 80s pickup. He plans to work up in Alaska after he graduates. We wish him the best of luck in his bright future.

# Op/Ed

## New Year, New Look

Ana Manning

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Over the Winter break the bathrooms and hallways were updated with a new look. They gained new red dispensers and hand sanitizers to take care of them yuckies. We also received new backboards to make our buckets cash!! Thank you Mr. Baker, Greg Wolff, Mr. Michelman, Mr. Frerichs, Mr. Sticklin and other administrators that helped make these updates possible!!

## Bringing Wonderful Art to Potter-Dix!

Ana Manning

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Our art teacher, Jennifer Thomas, and all of her wonderful students helped in putting together a butterfly mosaic that is displayed on the north wall by the gym. The materials used were donated by Atril Juelfs Hayes and the frame was made by John Herboldsheimer, both former Potter-Dix graduates.

“Be the change you want to see in the world.” by Gandhi will be the quote hung beside the beautiful butterfly as an encouragement to our student body.

Thank you for the hard work and the heart that was put into this true piece of art!



The Journalism Team with the New Mosaic

# Sports

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Photo Courtesy of Mariah Preistle

## Coyotes Keep Heart Over Hype

Tobias Thompson

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Basketball season for the Coyotes is showing improvement from the previous years. The boys have had some very close games played this year. (Boys) Both Leyton games were very competitive and finished within a difference of 10 points.

The girls basketball seniors on the team wants their team to just improve from what they were before. The MAC tournaments just came around this past week and the coyotes suffered a tough loss. The boys lost to Garden County (43-33) and the girls lost to Leyton (63-22).

Basketball season is almost over, but we are hoping for some more wins from both the girls and boys this basketball season.

## Speech Kicks Off

Tobias Thompson

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The speech team started their season on December 19th before winter break. Everyone who is on the team is Noah, Zach, Emilee, Mary, Gunnar, Josh, Ginny, Jayden Shoemaker, Karter and Kyla.

Here are the speeches that all of the students are doing. Noah and Zach are doing Humorous. Emilee and Mary are doing Informative. Gunnar and Josh are doing Entertainment. Noah and Ana are doing Poetry. Ginny and Jayden are doing Persuasive. Jayden and Emilee are doing Serious.

There are two duets: Gunnar and Luke, then Karter and Mary. there are two groups of OIDs. First group has Gunnar, Zach, Luke, Noah, and Ginny in it. The other OID group has Jayden, Mary and Ana in it. Speech is going to be fun to watch this year with a team like these young students. Their first meet will be MAC contest on Feb. 26 at Banner County.

Chandell, the head coach, is looking forward to this year, she said, "I'm very excited to watch this young team grow and progress better throughout the season."

## WWIII

Jaden Lee

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### Continued from pg 1

Through all these problems no war has been declared and neither side wants a war on their hands. Trump was trying to stop a war not start one and Iran's Quds Force said they will be taking actions. Most people are on American's side, but some think Iran was in the right.

Ali Alfoneh from the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington said, "Iran has no choice but to strike back and retaliate for the assassination of major General Soleimani." In response, Trump wrote on Twitter: "The United States just spent Two Trillion Dollars on Military Equipment. We are the biggest and by far the BEST in the World!" Its population is a quarter the size of America's but Iran does have a large military and nuclear program. It borders the Strait of Hormuz, which is a great choke point and is resource rich.

Some reports say that Soleimani recently held a strategy session ordering militia leaders in Iraq to increase their attacks on Americans there, giving them "sophisticated new weapons" to do so. Trump has said many things about the encounter on his twitter page.

Based on these exchanges and as many political figures would agree, war is unlikely. No one wants a war or to deal with one. If anything did break out, it would most likely be a war isolated in Iran. Things seem to have calmed down, but that does not mean that there is not a threat there. Americans should still be vigilant and be prepared for anything.

# Entertainment

## This Month In Music

### History

Hannah Reeve

On January 8, 2013 Black Veil Brides released their third studio album: Wretched And Divine: The Story Of The Wild Ones. With 19 tracks, the album is a mix of heavy instrumentals and melodic vocals. The album has an overarching theme of overcoming those who have hurt you.

The F.E.A.R Transmissions are a great example of this theme. They are small speaking sections littered throughout the album. Let's take F.E.A.R Transmission 3: As War Fades for example, with the lyrics "We are not interested in the possibility of defeat" it demonstrates the vibe of this album perfectly.

With Wretched and Divine's powerful riffs, pounding bass lines, and roaring drums, it's easy to see how Black Veil Brides have shaped not only the metal and rock scene but the whole music industry as a whole. This album also shows the softer side to the band with the song "Lost It All," which features Lead Singer Andy Biersack's girlfriend Juliet Simms.

Overall, this album has shaped not only a large group of people but an entire industry. Without this album the metal/rock scene would not be the way it is today.

## The Sidney Theater is now playing:

Dolittle - 7pm & 9pm  
1917 - 7pm & 9pm

## Upcoming Events

Hannah Reeve

Basketball against Minatare - February 1 @ 4p.m.  
Basketball JV Tourney - February 3-4  
Basketball against Crawford - February 6 @ 4p.m.  
Basketball against Garden Co. - February 7 @ 4p.m.  
Basketball at Peetz - February 11 @ 4p.m.  
Duckstamp contest presenters - February 12  
Basketball at Sedgwick - February 13 @ 4p.m.  
No school - February 17  
Girls sub districts - February 17, 18, 20.  
Basketball at Minatare - February 21 @ 5p.m.  
Boys sub Districts - February 24, 25, 27  
Mac Speech - February 26  
Girls District Final - February 28  
Boys District Final - February 29  
FFA Labor Auction - February 29 @ 5p.m.

## This Week's Weather

Hannah Reeve

This week's weather brought to you by [accuweather.com](http://accuweather.com).

Wed 1/29		43° / 21°	A.M. flurries; clouds and sun	Precip 52%
Thu 1/30		44° / 21°	Increasingly windy	Precip 9%
Fri 1/31		52° / 30°	Mostly sunny and windy	Precip 2%
Sat 2/1		64° / 36°	Mostly sunny; windy, milder	Precip 2%
Sun 2/2		65° / 20°	Breezy in the morning; sunny	Precip 4%
Mon 2/3		31° / 11°	Mostly cloudy and much colder	Precip 25%
Tue 2/4		26° / 10°	Partly sunny and cold	Precip 25%