

yeah, WE TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS

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design by a.fritz

DECA reclaims Chapter of Excellence honors at State competition in February

DAY ONE: ARRIVAL

The group arrived at the Broodmore Hotel where the Colorado State Career Development Conference was held. That evening, everyone dressed up and got ready for their traditional dinner. Then, they changed into more comfortable clothes to practice their presentations.

"This night everyone gives each other feedback, so they can mentally prepare for the judges the next day," Alina Hernandez '24 said.

DAY TWO: COMPETITION DAY BEGINS

Several members presented their manuals throughout the day to judges. The opening ceremony that evening also kicked off the festivities.

"We got to meet our State officers, and they hyped us

up for the big competitions coming. We then went to the pool and hung out as a group," Cheyenne Tuck '24 said.

DAY THREE: MORE COMPETITIONS

On that Monday, the guys got together to have their traditional breakfast and everyone with role plays competed. The group spent the day in the competition hall cheering each member on as they went to compete.

DAY FOUR: FINALISTS AND MORE COMPETITION

Tuesday morning, the group woke up at 5 a.m. to see who qualified for Nationals, and they had to compete again. Those who didn't compete stayed at the Broadmoore hanging out.

That evening was closing ceremonies where awards were announced. By the end of the

ceremony, Alina Hernandez '24 and Savannah Tuck '24 won sixth for PM Community Giving; Archer Vazquez '24 won sixth for Future Marketing Educator and third place for Retail Merchandising; Levi Johnson '25 won third place for Future Marketing Educator; and Sarai Sanchez '25 and Cheyenne Tuck '24 were the Chapter of Excellence Champions. Sanchez was also named the new District 7 Representative.

"Being a senior, it truly was an ending for me. I was so excited for everyone who placed and how we won Chapter of Excellence," Ethan Piper '24 said. "At the end of the night, we loaded up the bus and headed home. We, of course, stopped at Canes, which was another tradition. I am definitely going to miss Brighton DECA because it shaped who I am."



1. WINNING 3RD PLACE. Archer Vázquez '24 stands on stage holding his trophy after being awarded 3rd place in role play at the Colorado State Career Development Conference. "I won 3rd out of 12 other participants for my role play event. I felt pretty good because I get to go to compete at Nationals now," Vázquez said. *photo courtesy of a.vazquez*

2. PILLOWS FOR CANCER. Alina Hernandez '24 and Cheyenne Tuck '24 smile and hold up their trophy together as they earn fifth place for their community giving project at DECA State. "Essentially, it was a project where we partnered with a non-profit organization who made breast cancer pillows for breast cancer patients. We created 100 pillows and delivered them to hospitals. We created a 20 page project about it and presented it to judges. It was very special," Hernandez said. *photo by a.vazquez*

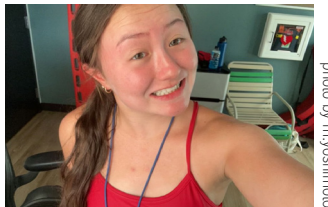
3. HUG IT OUT. Sarai Sanchez '25 hugs Alina Hernandez '24 on stage after hearing that she will be the next DECA District 7 State officer to represent their area. "I held the State officer position this year, and it was truly a beautiful experience. I was so glad to pass it down to someone from BHS like Sarai," Hernandez said. *photo by a.vazquez*

4. STATE CHAMPS. Holding up the DECA State Champion banner, Sarai Sanchez '25 and Cheyenne Tuck '24 stand on stage accepting the Chapter of Excellence award. "We were so excited because we worked so hard as a chapter. We were so excited to win," Tuck said. *photo by a.vazquez*

WE LOVE OUR JOB

(can't you see)

Students share what they enjoy about working



WHO: Morgan Yoshimoto '24
JOB: "I'm a lifeguard at the Brighton Crossing Venture Center pool."
WHAT SHE LOVES: "Being a lifeguard, I have learned how to be observant and always prepared. My favorite memory would be late night in-service trainings with my coworkers. It was so fun to be in the pool after dark even if it was just for training."



WHO: Graciela Eisman '25
JOB: "I'm a rancher."
WHAT SHE LOVES: "It's something I have been doing for such a long time. Getting to be around animals is something I love to do. It is going to help me prepare for my future business to raise animals."

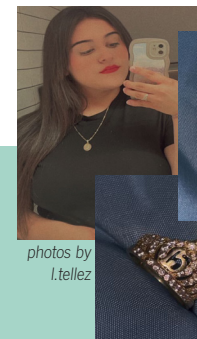
of course WE CHERISH THESE ITEMS

Students reflect over most expensive possessions



photo by p.peceller

WHO: Perla Peceller '25
MOST EXPENSIVE ITEM: "My car."
WHY: "My car is the most expensive to me because I've had to work hard in order to be able to fix it and add to it. It's still missing some things on the inside, but I am working as hard as I can to make sure my car has everything it needs."



photos by l.tellez

WHO: Liedy Tellez '25
MOST EXPENSIVE ITEM: "My Virgin Mary or my quinceñera ring."
WHY: "These items were gifts given to me by my sister for my 15th birthday. In our culture turning 15 is an important time where a young girl transitions to a young lady. They sometimes do big celebrations which are called Quinceñeras. I wasn't able to have one so my sister purchased these two beautiful sets of jewelry for my birthday."



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1. PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT. Deon Patton '27 and Erandi Jaime '27 practice their manual presentation in a hotel room to a group of students. "In the role play, you try to act like you are in a business. I did an event and created a campaign about building a home for a veteran. I researched it, and then tried to sell the idea to a judge," Jaime said. **2. FUELING UP.** On Monday morning, Ethan Piper '24 eats his breakfast before the DECA competition. "It was competition day, and we have a tradition in our DECA chapter for all the boys to go to breakfast together and kind of hype each other up," Piper said. **3. PROUD ADVISOR.** DECA advisor Karena Langan sits outside the judging rooms waiting for students to come out of their event. *photos by a.vazquez*

"ME AND MY SISTER HAVE BEEN PLANNING A SUMMER ROAD TRIP FOR YEARS. WE HOPE TO

GO TO GLACIER NATIONAL PARK AND SOME SPOTS IN MONTANA." KORI ZIRKER '25