

Association Activities

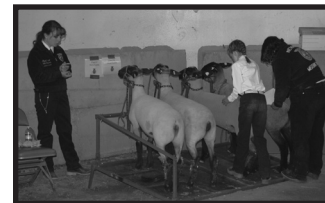
Over the course of the year, the Nevada State FFA Association has seen many activities. On February 11 and 12, 2008, the **Made for Excellence and Advanced Leadership Development** conferences were held in Winnemucca. The Made for Excellence (MFE) conference involves freshmen and sophomore students. The focus of this conference is to provide the participants with personal growth, and strives to build up confidence. Ninety-eight students from around the state participated in this conference. The Advanced Leadership Development (ALD) conference is designed for high school juniors and seniors. The 93 participants in this conference learned how to utilize their leadership skills as well as how to plan ahead for the future.



After the 79th State FFA Convention, it was immediately time for the new state officers to start learning about what to expect for the coming year. **BLAST Off** is a training offered by the National FFA Organization for all new state officers. Instruction is provided to prepare state officers for their year of service. Participants learn new skills in giving presentations, in being engaged in social events as well as in setting personal goals. The event was held at Lake Tahoe, April 8 - 13.



The state livestock judging and veterinary medicine contests were held in Reno on May 1, during the Nevada Junior Livestock Show. The **state livestock judging Career Development Event** involves students evaluating classes of livestock to determine which animal is best suited for further breeding, for producing the best meat or for replacing other animals within a livestock operation. Participants must then give their reasons for placing the animals as they did. Scoring is based on totaling the scores of the class evaluations as well as the scores from the reasons. The winning team came from Wells. Team members included Dustan Birrer, Maggie Howell, Jimmy Lotspeich, and Suzie Taylor. First high individual for the competition went to Suzie Taylor from Wells.



The **veterinary medicine contest**, which was held at the same time, included events that allowed students to display their veterinarian skills. The participants practiced suturing techniques, surgical procedure preparation, and participated in an animal evaluation with a local veterinarian. The high individual was Kate InShepro from the Sierra Nevada FFA Chapter. This relatively new contest took place in conjunction with the Health Occupations Student Association (HOSA) and followed their Veterinary Science Event rules.

Most recently, the annual **Summer Leadership Camp (SLC) and Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT)** was held. This event took place at the 4-H Camp in Lake Tahoe the week of June 23rd. State officers put on leadership workshops for the students. The camp theme for this year was "Driven by a Vision." Other camp activities included a mock banquet, a reflections ceremony, recreation time and dances.

