

Eagles headed to D-10 district meet

Written by Deb Egenberger

Thursday, 10 May 2012 14:24 - Last Updated Thursday, 10 May 2012 14:27



Relay paves the way for girls' surprise second at final invite

ARNOLD—When Brady track coach Rich Britten sent entries for Friday's Stapleton Invite at Arnold, he purposely changed up a few names.

"So close to the district meet, I like to give the kids fewer entries if I can and let them rest a little," Britten said.

He didn't plan to enter a girls 4x800 relay at all, leaving only three to run.

But when some girls heard they could earn a medal if they finished, they went for it.

The four points earned by the fourth-place finish by runners who normally compete only in field events was the difference between a tie for second place in the team standings and a clear third.

"We were surprised at how close it was at the end," Britten said. "It came down to another relay at the end."

The girls 4x400 relay, run by the usual participants in the 4x800, finished third to tie the team score at 90 points each for Brady and Hitchcock County.

"We had some good performances despite the heat," Britten said.

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The girls were awarded the runner-up plaque behind winner St. Pat's. The boys team finish was identical.

Gold medal winners for the girls were Josie Palmer in the high jump, Valerie Most in the pole vault and the 4x100 relay.

The boys had two individual gold medalists and one relay. Bryley Roper won the 400-meter dash and Eric Roe took first in the 300-meter hurdles.

The boys 4x400 relay was also a winner.

The Eagles travel to Sutherland Wednesday (today) for the D-10 district meet, hoping to qualify several for state next week in Omaha.

"We've got 10 motel rooms reserved in Omaha," Britten said. "We intend to fill them."

The district meet is set to begin at 10 a.m.