

It's repeat action for Eagles at conference meet

Written by Greg Viergutz
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The Brady Eagles track teams both brought home championship hardware from the Sandhills Conference Meet Thursday, but they went about it in different ways.

“We were pretty thrilled and happy with the kids performance,” Eagle coach Rich Britten said. “It turned out really well for us.”

For the girls, with few competitors, it is all about maximizing their efforts. The boys squad has some outstanding individuals, also, but dominate with more depth.

It marked the third straight conference crown for the girls, while the Brady boys were repeat winners.

Eagle record falls

The Brady girls coasted to the SHC title with 129 points. Hyannis was the runner-up with 99.

“With so few girls, we knew that we could score well but we didn’t know whether it would be enough to accomplish winning the meet,” Britten said.

Valerie Most broke her own school record in the 100-meter hurdles. Her time of 16.28 seconds sliced a tenth of a second off the mark she set last year.

Autumn Hild captured first place in the 400 with a time of 1:06.1.

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Shaylin McClellen missed matching a school record by a half inch in the long jump. Her winning effort, a personal best, went 16-1.

Josie Palmer won the only other individual gold medal for Brady. She cleared 5-1 in the high jump.

McClellen, Palmer, Most and Hild were all double winners as they joined forces for the 4x100 relay. Their winning time was 52.87 seconds.

Little competition for boys

Brady's winning margin was larger than the team score of four schools competing in the boys meet. The Eagles amassed 166 points—67 more than second place finisher Stapleton-McPherson County.

"We have more depth there so we thought we had a great chance at scoring a lot of points," Britten said. "We have some individuals that are going to win some events. We thought that might go well for us."

Things went even better as the Eagles won eight events. They swept the relays, hurdles and middle distance races.

Bryley Roper won a pair of individual gold medals—the 400 (:52.72) and 800 (2:07.59).

Eric Martin was the best in the hurdles winning the 110s in 16.72 seconds and the 300s in :44.78.

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Dayne Porter topped the pole vault chart with the best jump of 8-0.

Members of the winning 4x100 foursome were Cody Warren, Levi DeStefano, Jon Taullie and Josh Boon.

Combining for the 4x400 win were Martin, Troy Lusk, Zach Mann and Roper.

The gold medal 4x800 group included Cole Viter, Cody Most, Kaleb Arterburn and Marc Kramer-Davis.

Brady padded its scoring with six second place finishes. Among those was a nearly nine-inch improvement in the long jump by Roper who went 20-9.75.

Brady's next meet will be the Blevins Memorial Invitational on Friday at North Platte. The meet will begin at 10 a.m.