

Ten pictures are worth 10,000 words

Written by Wauneta Breeze
Thursday, 17 May 2012 21:11 -

By Diane Stamm

The Wauneta Breeze

I have no official journalism training. So, in general, I stick closely to the facts. The cold, boring facts.

I also have no official photography training. In that department I go with a quantity over quality approach.

I'd put a page full of pictures in every week if I could. This week I would have put in about 10 from the girls 1600 meter relay win at districts.

Pic 9069—Jonee Maris holding blocks and cheering as Emma Skelton takes off. It didn't take long for Bronco fans to think "Uh-oh." Every other team must have front-loaded their relay. When Emma, with a split of just over 68 seconds, hands the baton to Sydnee Harchelroad the Lady Broncos are in fourth. A distant fourth.

Pic 9075—Emma's hand off to Sydnee. Sutherland in first and Medicine Valley in second are long gone. Third place Brady has a 10-yard lead. As Sydnee rounds the second corner she hasn't gained on Brady and I'm thinking "They're in big trouble." Then at about 125 meters Sydnee kicks it into gear and you can see her reeling in third place with every stride.

Pic 9083—Sydnee's hand off to Leiauna. Fourth place is a distant memory. Sydnee's lap of slightly over 63 seconds, two seconds better than her time in the open 400 meter run, has Brady 20 yards in the rearview mirror. With Emma watching in the background, Leiauna Alberts

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has to swing out into lane three to avoid tripping over second place Medicine Valley when she gets the baton. Leiauna's lap is kind of a blur to me. Her split was just over 68 seconds. What matters is that she passes Medicine Valley and has Abbie Fanning nipping at the heels of first place.

Pic 9088—Leiauna's hand off to Abbie. Medicine Valley and Brady are battling for third 10 yards back. Sutherland's final leg is a tall, long-legged kid. Abbie left her in the dust. She erased a five-yard deficit and turned it into at least a five-yard win.

From there the pictures run together. Abbie crosses the line with her arms raised. Sydnee and Leiauna are just off the track to the right with huge smiles on their faces, trying not to steamroll the girl holding the finish line string on their way to get to Abbie. Head coach Dawn Doetker is at turn four with her arms in the air.

Abbie's mom Jo is the first one to get to her. Hugs ensue. Leiauna is second, crying happy tears. Then Sydnee followed by Emma crying tears of relief. Abbie's dad Craig hugs the team as alternate Jonee Maris comes running in. Throughout