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MY LITTLE PONY IV
"Flight to the Finish"
Episode 405
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ACT I

TEASER:

1) EXT. PONYVILLE - DAY - ESTABLISHING

2) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

APPLE BLOOM and SWEETIE BELLE trot off to school, with SCOOTALOO scootering along next to them. As they go, Sweetie Belle sings a little song.

1 SWEETIE BELLE
(singing)
*School school school - we love
school! School school school - we
love school! Yeahhhhhhh....*

2 SCOOTALOO
Love that song, Sweetie Belle!

3 SWEETIE BELLE
Why, thank you! And really, can you
think of anything else in the world
better than going to school?

4 DIAMOND TIARA (O.S.)
Like, a thousand million things...

The Mean Girls, DIAMOND TIARA and SILVER SPOON, trot up.

5 DIAMOND TIARA (CONT'D)
Shopping, for one. Or getting your
hooves buffed at the spa.

6 SILVER SPOON
School is a boredom factory: the
same old same old day after day.

3) INT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

MISS CHEERILEE is at the front of the room, excited. The Crusaders, the Mean Girls, and other kids (SNIPS, SNAILS, TWIST, etc.) are at their desks, listening with anticipation.

7 MISS CHERRILEE
Today won't be the same old same
old! We have two special guests
with a very special announcement.
(MORE)

MISS CHERRILEE (CONT'D)
Everypony, welcome the Head of the
Equestria Games, Ms. Harshwhinny.

MS. HARSHWHINNY, the Head of Games, comes forward.

8 MS. HARSHWHINNY
Thank you. Quiet! Children, this
announcement is very very serious!
You littlest ponies will have the
opportunity to compete for a
weighty responsibility -

9 RAINBOW DASH (O.S.)
Oh, c'mon! Tell 'em the fun part!

Rainbow Dash flies in.

10 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Someponies in this room are gonna
get to carry the Ponyville flag in
the Opening Ceremony of the
Equestria Games!

The KIDS <OOH!> and <AAH!>.

11 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Make up your own flag-carrying
routine and compete two days from
now in Crystal Empire Stadium. You
show the most awesome, most
spectacular, most rockin' routine
and you're goin' to the Games! So,
who's gonna be the lucky ponies?

ON: three shots of hopeful-looking ponies in the class:

12 DIAMOND TIARA / SILVER SPOON
Could it be me?

13 TWIST
Maybe it's me?

14 SCOOTALOO
Maybe it's us!

ON: SNIPS, as if startled and looking goofy:

15 SNIPS
Yeah, totally not me.

END TEASER

MAIN TITLE

ACT I

4) INT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

Resume in the schoolroom. Scootaloo is super excited:

16 SCOOTALOO
So if we win, we get to carry the
Ponyville flag at the Equestria
Games? That. Is. AWESOME!

At the chalkboard, Ms. Harshwinny points to a chalk diagram of the Stadium, pointing out the proper procedure.

17 MS. HARSHWHINNY
An awesome burden, you mean? Why,
yes it is. The eyes of all of
Equestria will be upon you! The
winning team from each town enters
the Stadium with a standard size
flag here... then canters in a full
circle here at a pace not more than
two shakes of a pony's tail...

18 RAINBOW DASH
Blah blah blah, get to the nitty
gritty later. Tell 'em the
important stuff: who's the coach?
Fine, I'll tell 'em:

She whips out a ballcap that says "COACH"

19 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
That's right: ME! And you know why
I'm qualified to coach you? Guess
who carried the Cloudsdale flag in
the Equestria Games when she was a
little pony? Yeah, you know it: ME!

DISSOLVE TO:

5) FLASHBACK - EXT. STADIUM - DAY

A stadium, packed with ponies at a Games' Opening Ceremony.

20 RAINBOW DASH (V.O.)
I'll never forget it. And neither
will anyone who was there. My
routine is legen - *wait for it!* -
dary!

A YOUNG RAINBOW DASH rockets into the air above the crowd, carrying the Ponyville flag in her teeth.

21 RAINBOW DASH
I burst into the stadium...
spreading my wings, the flag
flapping in the breeze!

She twirls the flag expertly. <WILD APPLAUSE>.

22 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Yeah, I'm not shy to say it: I did
tricks with that flag the likes of
which no one saw before, and no
one's ever seen again!

She twirls the flag fast. There's an hot white <EXPLOSION!>.

DISSOLVE TO:

6) RESUME REALITY - INT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

Rainbow Dash twirls the classroom Ponyville flag as Scootaloo nudges the other Crusaders.

23 SCOOTALOO
Now I know we're gonna win! Rainbow
Dash and I are besties!

Sweetie Belle and Apple Bloom share a skeptical look.

24 APPLE BLOOM
Um - "Besties"?

25 SWEETIE BELLE
Isn't that a little bit of a
stretch?

26 MS. HARSHWHINNY
In three days' time, Ms. Dash will
accompany anypony competing for
this honor to the Crystal Empire
where you will demonstrate the
routines for me and the other
judges. Try to impress me.

27 RAINBOW DASH
In the meantime, get ready to train
- and train hard! Because I know
this Opening Ceremony is the single
most important thing that will ever
happen in your young lives...

28 SCOOTALOO
It is, it is!

29 RAINBOW DASH
And I know my fame there sets a
seriously high bar...

30 SCOOTALOO
It does, it does!

31 RAINBOW DASH
But I know you're up to the
challenge!

32 SCOOTALOO
I AM! I AM!

33 RAINBOW DASH
Okay, you guys, tomorrow after
school show me your flag-carrying
skills - then I'll help you make
them even MORE awesome! I. Am.
Outta here!

She flies out. Zips back in.

34 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Gonna want that flag.

Grabs it in her teeth and flies out twirling away. Ms.
Harshwhinny is left a bit flustered and put-upon.

35 MS. HARSHWHINNY
Why I never! Now, remember,
children: your routine is meant to
represent Ponyville, so do your
town proud! Work hard. Be bold.
Wow me. That is all.

She canters away, head held high.

36 MISS CHERRILEE
All right, class. Now, the rest of
the day may be spent planning your
routines!

The Ponies call <WHOO HOO! YAY!> as they rush out.

7) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

The Crusaders rush outdoors and confer.

37 SCOOTALOO
Crusaders, more than anything I
want to follow in the hoofsteps of
my idol, mentor, and - yes: bestie,
Rainbow Dash. So whaddaya say we
come up with the perfect routine
and win this thing?!?!

38 APPLE BLOOM
I'd say that'd be tom-teerrific!
But there's one problem!

39 SWEETIE BELLE
How can anypony ever match up to
Rainbow Dash's performance? We've
heard about it for years and years -

40 APPLE BLOOM
Mostly from her! But how can we
compete with THAT?

41 SCOOTALOO
Okay, maybe we can't be better than
Rainbow Dash - but somepony in our
class is gonna carry that - so it
might as well be us! Crusaders, are
you in, or are you in? Cuz I'M in.

She puts a hoof into the middle of the circle.

42 APPLE BLOOM
Me too!

43 SWEETIE BELLE
Me three!

They put their hoofs in as well.

44 SCOOTALOO
So here's what I'm thinking. The
winning routine will show what's
important about Ponyville, right?

45 APPLE BLOOM / SWEETIE BELLE
Right!

46 SCOOTALOO
So what's special about Ponyville?

47 APPLE BLOOM
The climate?

48 SWEETIE BELLE
Casual Fridays?

49 SCOOTALOO
No! Well, yes, but: more
importantly it's a place where
different kinds of ponies live
together as friends -

50 APPLE BLOOM
Earth Ponies, like me!

51 SWEETIE BELLE
Unicorns, like me!

52 SCOOTALOO
And Pegasussss - Pegasusus - PegaSI,
like me! So somehow we gotta figure
out a way to show that in our act.

53 SWEETIE BELLE
But how? We're gonna need a plan -

54 APPLE BLOOM
And a lotta hard work -

55 SCOOTALOO
And a whole bunch of practice. But
take it from me: the Cutie Mark
Crusaders have the talent, the
drive, and the guts to come up with
a routine like nopony else. And do
you know why?

56 APPLE BLOOM / SWEETIE BELLE
WHY?

57 SCOOTALOO
We may just be little ponies - but
we have hearts as strong as the
strongest horses!

MUSIC UP as Scootaloo begins to sing a SONG:

58 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
*We're the toughest little ponies in
town! Got the moves, got the mojo.
/ Ain't no harder-working ponies
around / And we work as a trio, not
solo!*

59 APPLE BLOOM
*We don't win by sitting down on our
butts*

60 SWEETIE BELLE
Or by gobbling down macaroni.

61 SCOOTALOO
*We win by trusting in our brains
and our guts -
Cuz we've got hearts strong...
as horses!*

62 ALL THREE CRUSADERS
*We've got hearts strong as horses,
And we're playing to win
In a last minute gallop to glory!
We know we can conquer
any challenge we're in -
We're winners
with hearts strong as horses!*

**8) MONTAGE - EXT. - VARIOUS LOCATIONS - PONYVILLE -
CONTINUOUS**

Underneath the song: a montage of the ponies as they get themselves in shape, prize-fighter style:

Apple Bloom spars with GRANNY SMITH - who holds her own!

63 APPLE BLOOM
*We get going when the going gets
tough -*

Sweetie Belle does pushups. SPIKE sitting on her back.
Sweetie Belle leaps up suddenly, and Spike goes flying.

64 SWEETIE BELLE
*Kinda short, but so what?
Undefeated - YEAH!*

Ponies leap over hurdles. Scootaloo zooms past them on her scooter, and her speed blows them over.

65 SCOOTALOO
*We know our very best is never
enough -
And we hydrate when we're
overheated!*

She takes a swig from a water bottle and zooms off.

One by one, CLOSE ON the Cutie Mark Crusader: determined, confident, and focused!

66 ALL THREE CRUSADERS
*We've got hearts strong as horses,
 And we're playing to win
 In a last minute gallop to glory!
 We know we can conquer
 any challenge we're in -
 We're winners
 with hearts strong as horses!*

They race up the steps of a town building, just like "Rocky."

67 ALL THREE CRUSADERS (CONT'D)
*We've got hearts strong as horses,
 And we're playing to win
 In a last minute gallop to glory!
 We know we can conquer
 any challenge we're in -
 We're winners
 with hearts strong as horses!
 We're winners
 with hearts strong as horses
 YEAH!*

END SONG

Together, they strike a triumphant pose with Scootaloo on the bottom, standing tall, with the other two Crusaders perched on her raised front hooves. They wait for applause -

- but all they hear is an ironic <SLOW CLAP> from O.S.

Widen to reveal Silver Spoon and Diamond Tiara, standing off to the side watching.

68 DIAMOND TIARA
 Well, if that's the best you've
 got, we're going to win for sure!

Silver Spoon slyly flicks Scootaloo's nose with her tail.

69 SCOOTALOO
 Ahh-Ahhh-AHCHOOO!

As she sneezes, the Crusaders fall in a heap.

70 ALL THREE CRUSADERS
 OOF! / OW! / UGH!

The Mean Girls saunter past the heap of Crusaders. The Crusaders leap up and dust themselves off.

71 SILVER SPOON
We already have the most divine
routine planned.

72 DIAMOND TIARA
It's absolutely sure to crush
everyone else. And I mean CRUSH!

73 SCOOTALOO
(singing poorly)
*But we're winners, and we have
heaaaaarts...*

74 SILVER SPOON
Sure, but you know what you don't
have?

75 DIAMOND TIARA / SILVER SPOON
YOUR CUTIE MARKS!
(pointing and laughing)
Blank Flanks! Blank Flanks!

76 APPLE BLOOM
So what if we don't have our Cutie
Marks yet? What does that have to
do with flag-carrying?

77 SILVER SPOON
But having Cutie-Mark-less ponies
represent Ponyville would be
unthinkable!

78 DIAMOND TIARA
And we, of course, already HAVE our
Cutie Marks. So we know who's going
to be in the winner's circle.

79 SILVER SPOON
Wait: who?

80 DIAMOND TIARA
Us! Haven't you been listening?

81 SILVER SPOON
Oh, right: Us!

They laugh nastily. Scootaloo gets right in their faces.

82 SCOOTALOO
Listen you two: Cutie Marks or no
Cutie Marks, you'll see: the
Crusaders are going to carry that
flag at the Games.

83 SILVER SPOON
May the best ponies win!
(to Diamond Tiara)
We're the best ponies, right?

Diamond Tiara nods, vigorously, and stomps a hoof.

84 SCOOTALOO
May the best ponies win. GAME ON!

Out on Scootaloo's determined look. A STING OF MUSIC.

SLAM TO BLACK.

END OF ACT I

ACT II

9) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - DAY

ON: Rainbow Dash, wearing her "COACH" cap.

85 RAINBOW DASH
Show me what you got, Cutie Mark
Crusaders: And make it good.

Widen to show the athletic field, and a makeshift stage with a patched-up curtain. Behind it, The Crusaders bustle about.

86 SCOOTALOO
(head through the curtain)
Don't worry, we will!
(to Apple Bloom, O.S.)
Ow, that's my hoof!

87 APPLE BLOOM (O.S.)
Gosh, I'm sorry!

88 RAINBOW DASH
Have you been practicing?

89 APPLE BLOOM
(head through the curtain)
A little.

90 RAINBOW DASH
I hope you're ready.

91 SWEETIE BELLE
(head through the curtain)
Me too!

(MORE)

SWEETIE BELLE (CONT'D)

Now, this is just a little
something we threw together. It's
not perfect yet - not even close -

92 APPLE BLOOM

Now, imagine we're in the stadium,
but please be kind...

93 RAINBOW DASH

JUST DO THE ROUTINE ALREADY!

94 ALL THREE CRUSADERS

OKAY, OKAY!

Rainbow Dash does a hoofpalm to the face. Off to one side,
the Mean Girls rise from their hiding place behind a bush.

95 DIAMOND TIARA

Let's watch the Cutie Mark GOOF-
saders do their sad little routine.

96 SILVER SPOON

There's only one way to say it:
they're gonna be a hot mess.

They <SNICKER> and duck down, peering over the bush.

CLOSE ON: Apple Bloom's hoof hitting a switch, switching on
some lamps. Homemade spotlights snap on.

CLOSE ON: Sweetie Belle's hoof hitting a chord on a little
toy organ. It plays a surprisingly loud <DRAMATIC PRELUDE>.

CLOSE ON: Scootaloo speaking into a megaphone. Her voice is
amplified, as if she were announcing a Monster Truck rally.

97 SCOOTALOO (O.S.)

(amplified, reverberating)
Since the dawn of recorded time, in
one town of amazing amazingness...
three types of ponies coexist - and
live together as friends!

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle trot onstage, making elaborate
circles and doing jazz hoofs.

98 APPLE BLOOM

We are Earth Ponies...

99 SWEETIE BELLE

We are Unicorns...

Scootaloo scooters in, weaving in and out between them.

100 SCOOTALOO
We are Pegasi!

Scootaloo scooters O.S. as Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle make a dramatic drum beating sound, like the theme to 2001:

101 APPLE BLOOM / SWEETIE BELLE
Bumm... Bummm.... Bummm - BA BUM!
BUM bum, BUM bum, BUM bum...
(continuing under)

102 SCOOTALOO (O.S.)
And the town where friendship
reigns is our home... and that home
has a name...

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle each lift up one side of a giant circular hoop with a picture of the Ponyville flag in the middle. Music and "drumbeats" increase intensity.

103 SCOOTALOO (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Now welcome to the stadium the flag
of the place we love best...

Scootaloo rockets through the hoop on her scooter, breaking through the paper flag in the middle of it as streamers shoot from the edges of the hoop. The Ponyville flag itself is on a flagpole at the back of the scooter. She rides to join the other two at the front as the organ blares a <FANFARE>.

104 ALL THREE CRUSADERS
PONYVILLE - FOREVER! YAY!

All three Crusaders strike a triumphant pose.

Rainbow Dash's mouth drops open. The Mean Girls are behind the bush, equally amazed. The Crusaders race to Rainbow Dash.

105 SCOOTALOO
It's kind of a work in progress.
So, what'd you think?

Rainbow Dash shakes with excitement. In interior monologue:

106 RAINBOW DASH (V.O.)
That. Was. AMAZING! These kids are
gonna win for sure. But wait Dash,
You tell 'em how good it was,
you'll jinx it. Just keep cool.

107 SCOOTALOO
Oh no - didn't you like it?

108 RAINBOW DASH
 (to the ponies, calmly)
To give a calm, clear analysis...
 (suddenly overexcited)
Wait: you whipped that act together
just yesterday? That... is...
 (to herself in V.O.)
Professionalism, Dash: you're
coaching ALL the ponies. Keep cool!
 (calmly to the girls:)
Overall it was kinda sorta...
 (She's sweating now. V.O.)
C'mon, Dash, never let 'em see you
sweat. Don't ruin this. These kids
remind me of someone, but who? Oh,
yeah: ME!
 (to the girls)
Overall, it was...
 (the ponies lean in:)
Hang on one second.

Unable to control herself, she flies behind the schoolhouse
where alone, she busts out how she really feels:

109 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
That... was... AWESOME!

WHOOSH! She flies back to the trio. Falsely cool:

110 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Overall it was okay. Keep working
hard, who knows? You might have a
shot. Gotta go. AAH!

ZING! She's off in a blur.

111 APPLE BLOOM
Do you think she liked it?

112 SWEETIE BELLE
I'm not really sure.

113 SCOOTALOO
You heard her: if we keep working
hard we might have a shot. So let's
keep working! Trot to it, ponies!

ON: the Mean Girls as they pop out of the bush.

114 DIAMOND TIARA
Did you SEE that? I can't believe
I'm saying this: they could win!

115 SILVER SPOON
But how can we stop them? We
already called them Blank Flanks.

116 DIAMOND TIARA
Then we need to find a new way to
get under their skin.

She peers at the Crusaders one by one: Apple Bloom sets the hoop, Sweetie Belle practices her steps, and Scootaloo fixes the wheel while her little wings flap behind her. A <SOUND LIKE THE 'PSYCHO' THEME>. PUSH IN ON: Diamond Tiara as she has an idea. ON: Scootaloo's little wings flapping. CLOSER ON: Diamond Tiara, smile spreading. CLOSER ON: Scootaloo's wings. CLOSER ON: Diamond Tiara, with Scootaloo's flapping wings reflected in her eyes. Her eyes narrow.

117 DIAMOND TIARA (CONT'D)
Or maybe, get under their WINGS.

She whispers to Silver Spoon, who smiles. They trot over.

118 DIAMOND TIARA (CONT'D)
Girls, we just wanted to say your
act is quite impressive!

119 SWEETIE BELLE
Wait - what?

120 APPLE BLOOM
Gosh, I never thought I'd hear you
say that. Um... thanks?

121 SILVER SPOON
Oh, but of course! As a matter of
fact, we think you're very brave.

122 SCOOTALOO
Brave? Why?

123 DIAMOND TIARA
Isn't it obvious? It is to us. In
fact, it's obvious to everypony.
You're showing all three types of
ponyville ponies, yet you have a
Pegasus Pony -

124 DIAMOND TIARA / SILVER SPOON
- *who can't even fly!*

125 APPLE BLOOM
What in tarnation does that have to
do with anything?

126 SILVER SPOON
I'd say it has everything to do
with everything, doesn't it?

127 SCOOTALOO
Okay, I can't fly yet. So what if
my wings can't get me off the
ground?

128 DIAMOND TIARA
Your career as a flag carrier isn't
getting off the ground, either.

129 SCOOTALOO
What do you mean?

130 SILVER SPOON
Ms. Harshwhinny will never pick a
Pegasus pony who can't fly to
represent Ponyville in front of the
whole world!

131 SWEETIE BELLE
Waitasecond - Miss Harshwinny never
said anything about that!

132 APPLE BLOOM
Don't listen to them, Scootaloo!

133 SILVER SPOON
She didn't have to! I would've
thought that was obvious.

134 DIAMOND TIARA
Well, have fun practicing anyway.
Even if your routine will never -
how shall I say? "Take off."

The Mean Girls trot off. As they go, they hoofbump with glee.

135 APPLE BLOOM
Aw, they don't know what in Pony
Hill they're talking about.

136 SWEETIE BELLE
Don't listen to them, Scootaloo.
(noting Scootaloo's look)
Scootaloo? You ok?

137 SCOOTALOO
You know what? We're starting over.
We're gonna need a whole new
routine.

138 SWEETIE BELLE
WHAT?

139 APPLE BLOOM
But for apples' sake, why?

140 SCOOTALOO
If we want to win, I'm gonna have
to fly.

Sweetie Belle and Apple Bloom share a look.

141 SWEETIE BELLE
But Scootaloo: is that even
possible?

142 APPLE BLOOM
And by tomorrow?

143 SCOOTALOO
Maybe I just haven't tried hard
enough. Maybe I can fly if I work
twice as hard. See?

She flaps a little - and hovers a bit - and falls.

144 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
Oof! Maybe three times as hard.

145 APPLE BLOOM
Golly, I don't know, Scootaloo. I
don't think that's the problem.

146 SCOOTALOO
Well I know this for sure: flying
is the only way we're gonna win. So
it's back to practice!

She tries to fly off but can't. Hops on her scooter instead.

147 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
I'll just work four times as hard.

148 SWEETIE BELLE
Is this a good idea?

149 APPLE BLOOM
Probably not.

10) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - LATER

By the sun, it's late afternoon. The ponies are droopy.

150 SCOOTALOO
Guys, guys, guys - try it again.

151 APPLE BLOOM
But we've been rehearsing all the
livelong day! We're getting tired.

152 SWEETIE BELLE
We've been working really hard.

153 SCOOTALOO
Fine. We'll skip to my big
impressive flying entrance. So
you've done the do-si-do to the
left, then the right, and there's
the hoop. Then I come in, and...

She takes a running start. Then launches herself into the air
and wiggles her wings and...

154 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
WHOA WHOA WHOA!

She lands with a thump.

155 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
I'm alright. Not quite what I had
in mind... We'll just - oof - try
that part again...

She lifts up, and hovers haltingly. Then stops, and hops on
her scooter. As she scooters off.

156 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
I'll just work five times as hard.

Apple Bloom whispers to Sweetie Belle:

157 APPLE BLOOM
I liked our routine the way it was!

158 SWEETIE BELLE
Me TOO! But all she cares about now
is flying.

159 APPLE BLOOM
Let's keep at it. Maybe we'll be
ok?

Scootaloo's in place on the stage.

160 SCOOTALOO
Okay, ready. Don't worry - I'll be
flyin' high tomorrow at our final
run-through for Rainbow Dash. I'm
gonna get this, you'll see!

She GRUNTS and flaps, but cannot fly.

11) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - DAY

Rainbow Dash, in her COACH cap, in front of the stage.

161 RAINBOW DASH
Ready, Cutie Mark Crusaders?
(getting excited)
And if it's anything like what I
saw yesterday, I know you're
absolutely, positively, gonna...
(calms down)
...have a lot of fun. Okay, go!

She <BLOWS A WHISTLE>. On the stage, the routine begins.
Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle enter, doing new steps. Badly.

162 SCOOTALOO
(into megaphone)
Ponyville, Ponyville, friendship,
Blah blah blah, three kinds of
ponies...

163 APPLE BLOOM
BUM bum BUM bum... Oops sorry!

164 SWEETIE BELLE
Left! LEFT!

165 APPLE BLOOM
I know, I know. And then I dip, and
then we turn... BUM bum BUM bum...

166 SWEETIE BELLE
Turn then dip. BUM bum BUM bum...

167 SCOOTALOO (O.S.)
Then my big dramatic entrance as I
zoom through the air on my small
but totally mighty wings...

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle lift the hoop. The Ponyville
flag centerpiece of the hoop falls out, revealing Scootaloo
hovering just an inch off the ground for only an instant.

168 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
Ta-da! Impressive, right?

Rainbow Dash's mouth drops open. The Crusaders trot over.

169 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
So? What'd you think?

170 RAINBOW DASH (V.O.)
(interior monologue)
What happened to their amazing routine? Wait, you can't say that. Professionalism, Dash!
(out loud)
Well, um. That's. Y'know. Good and all - always great to try out different options, I guess...

171 SCOOTALOO
It's a bold choice. Is it working?

172 RAINBOW DASH
(in V.O.)
They're little, don't crush them. Just be cool, Dash, be cool!
(out loud)
Well, just a thought - maybe possibly you might wanna go back to, say, the first version of the act, which was, I don't know, what's the word? Better. Be right back.

She's shaking by now. Then she zooms away. From O.S.:

173 RAINBOW DASH (O.S.) (CONT'D)
AAAAAAAARGH! Professionalism!

Rainbow Dash flies back, suddenly very calm.

174 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
You guys, tomorrow we leave early for the competition in the Crystal Empire. Just do the routine as it was. Don't mess with success, right? Seriously. See you in the morning!

She flies off. Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon saunter by.

175 APPLE BLOOM
You know something, Scootaloo? I
kinda agree with Rainbow Dash. I
liked the routine how it was.

176 SWEETIE BELLE
Same here! And Rainbow Dash said...

177 DIAMOND TIARA
I think Rainbow Dash said that
because she doesn't want you to
outshine the fabulous flying SHE
did in the Opening Ceremonies years
ago!

178 SILVER SPOON
In any case, keep up the practice.
It's really "taking flight"!

Then they trot off, with sly winks at each other.

179 APPLE BLOOM
Aw, who cares what they think?

180 SCOOTALOO
What are we gonna do? We're
competing tomorrow I still can't
fly, unless -
 (stops short)
WAIT! I've got it!

12) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - AFTERNOON

CLOSE ON: Scootaloo aloft in the air, wings flapping.

181 SCOOTALOO
I'm flying! I'm flying!

WIDEN TO REVEAL: Scootaloo dangles from a rope strung through
a pulley on a crossbeam. Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle hoist
her up, pulling on either end of the rope with their teeth.
They GRUNT: this is hard!

**(NOTE: Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle both speak with the rope
between their gritted teeth until noted below.)**

182 APPLE BLOOM
No! To the left, Sweetie Belle.

Sweetie Belle pulls to the left.

183 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
No, your *other* left.

184 SWEETIE BELLE
You're not the boss of me.

185 APPLE BLOOM
You're not the boss of me!

186 SCOOTALOO
No one's the boss of anyone else!

187 SWEETIE BELLE
You'd never know it.

188 SCOOTALOO
What's that supposed to mean?

189 SWEETIE BELLE
You know very well!

190 SCOOTALOO
Do not!

191 SWEETIE BELLE
Then I'm not going to tell you!

Here, Sweetie Belle and Apple Bloom yell at each other, both dropping the rope.

192 APPLE BLOOM
Why are we fighting?

193 SWEETIE BELLE
I HAVE NO IDEA!!!

194 SCOOTALOO (O.S.)
(from above)
Whoa whoa whoa.....!

Scootaloo falls and lands on the other Crusaders. They all go flying, and the crossbeam <SNAPS> in two.

195 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
This is a disaster! We gotta rebuild this rig - and quick!

196 SWEETIE BELLE
I'm just too tired. I can't keep going.

197 APPLE BLOOM
Me too! I'm tired, I'm hungry - and
now I hate this routine! It feels
like it's all about you now.

198 SWEETIE BELLE
She's right. It's like you don't
even need us anymore.

199 SCOOTALOO
Of COURSE I need you. Without you
two, how am I gonna fly?

200 APPLE BLOOM
UGH! Do you listen to yourself? Oh,
forget it. I'm going home to get
some sleep.

She lopes off, annoyed and tired.

201 SCOOTALOO
So? Are you gonna leave me too?

202 SWEETIE BELLE
(sighing)
We've gotta catch the early train
to the Crystal Empire. I better get
some rest. See you in the morning,
Scootaloo

Sweetie Belle goes off. Alone, Scootaloo takes a deep breath,
and gives a <GRUNT> of effort as she flaps her wings.

203 SCOOTALOO
I know I can do it - if I work
twenty times as hard...

She hovers about a foot, unsteadily...

13) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - LATER

The sun's going down. She hovers even lower.

204 SCOOTALOO
Thirty - times - as hard.

14) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - STILL LATER

Night. The moon's in the sky. She hovers lower still.

205 SCOOTALOO
Just - a little - harder...

15) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - NIGHT

<CRICKETS.> Darkest night. The moon's travelled across the sky. Weary, Scootaloo drags her hooves on the ground.

206 SCOOTALOO
Must - learn - to fly...

16) EXT. PONYVILLE - STATION - DAY

<DING DING!> A CONDUCTOR rings a bell.

207 CONDUCTOR
Crystal Empire! All aboard!

Widen to show Ponyville Station, with ponies boarding the train. <EXCITED HUBBUB>. In the crowd, Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle look around desperately.

208 SWEETIE BELLE
Scootaloo? Where IS she?

209 APPLE BLOOM
She better get here soon - this
here train is about to leave!

210 SCOOTALOO (O.S.)
Here I am.

Scootaloo is on her scooter, looking tired and dejected.

211 APPLE BLOOM
There you are! We were scared you
were going to miss the train -

212 SCOOTALOO
I - I'm not going.

213 APPLE BLOOM / SWEETIE BELLE
WHAT?

214 SCOOTALOO
I'm the weak link. If I go and
fall, flop, or do anything but fly,
I'm gonna blow it for you two.

215 SWEETIE BELLE
But that's not true, Scootaloo!
Come on...

216 APPLE BLOOM
You know what, Sweetie Belle?
Forget it. If she's gonna quit, we
don't want her and we don't need
her. Just stay home, Scootaloo.

217 SCOOTALOO
That's what I'm trying to do!

218 SWEETIE BELLE
I can't believe you're quitting on
us! I can't believe it!

219 SCOOTALOO
But you're better off without me!

220 APPLE BLOOM
Then fine, we WILL be. Fine!

221 SWEETIE BELLE
Fine!

222 SCOOTALOO
FINE!

223 CONDUCTOR
All aboard!

224 SCOOTALOO
Have fun at the Stadium.

She turns and scooters away as the other two board the train.
<TOOT> of a train whistle as the train starts to move. Apple
Bloom and Sweetie Belle stick their heads through the window,
watching Scootaloo go off as the train gains speed.

Rainbow Dash flies from the sky.

225 RAINBOW DASH
How's my favorite routine going
today? Yeah, I said it: my
favorite! OOH I just can't keep it
in. I want you to win so bad!
"BumBUM, bumBUM". Then Scootaloo
does that KAPOW! through the hoop!

226 APPLE BLOOM
Well, there ain't gonna be a
Scootaloo KAPOW thing.

227 SWEETIE BELLE
Or even a Scootaloo at all! She's
staying home.

228 RAINBOW DASH
She's WHAT? Has she gone totally
loco in the head? We need all three
of you together to win! We gotta
get Scootaloo back - and fast!

But the train steams full speed ahead to the Crystal Empire.

SLAM TO BLACK.

END OF ACT II

ACT III

17) EXT. TRAIN TRACKS TO THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE - DAY

Rainbow Dash flies trough the train till she spots a red
ripcord: the emergency brake. She pulls the cord with her
teeth.

The Ponyville Express <SHRIEKS TO A HALT>, sparking on the
tracks as it stops short!

18) INT. TRAIN - CONTINUOUS

Inside the car, Rainbow Dash addresses the Crusaders, while
the other ponies lie in a (safe but comical) heap.

229 RAINBOW DASH
Now what's this about Scootaloo not
being on the train?

230 APPLE BLOOM
Well... she got it in her head that
the only way to represent Ponyville
was by flying in our routine.

231 RAINBOW DASH
How'd THAT happen, I wonder?

She gives a look to the Mean Girls. They make innocent faces.

232 DIAMOND TIARA
Don't look at me. I have no idea!

233 RAINBOW DASH
Waitasecond: when she told you
this, what did you tell her? Tell
me you tried to stop her.

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle shift, a little embarrassed.

234 SWEETIE BELLE
Well, actually we kinda told her -

235 APPLE BLOOM
- that we didn't want her anymore.

236 RAINBOW DASH
Hang on: are you NUTS? You're a
team and a team never leaves a
friend behind. Come on!

She flies out the door. Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle follow.

Outside by the train tracks:

237 SWEETIE BELLE
Rainbow Dash: where are we going?

238 RAINBOW DASH
Back to Ponyville. To find
Scootaloo and get her back in the
routine.

Rainbow Dash starts flying. The two Crusaders gallop along
below her, next to the train tracks.

239 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
(aloud to herself)
That is, if we can even get there
in time. Put on some speed, girls!

19) INT. - PONYVILLE - SCOOTALOO'S BEDROOM - A LITTLE LATER

At home in her bedroom, a dejected Scootaloo takes down old
Equestria Games posters from her walls.

240 SCOOTALOO
Guess I don't need these any more.

She moves to throw them in the trash and trips over her
scooter.

241 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
Ugh! Dumb old scooter.

She moves to throw it in the trash as well.

242 RAINBOW DASH (O.S.)
Whoa! Whoa! Whoa! Throwing away
your SCOOTER? You HAVE gone loco in
the head!

ON: Rainbow Dash hovering outside Scootaloo's window.

243 SCOOTALOO
Rainbow Dash?

244 RAINBOW DASH
Yup. But not just me...

STRAINING, Sweetie Belle and Apple Bloom struggle to climb
into view in the window, as well.

245 SWEETIE BELLE
Us too!

246 APPLE BLOOM
We're here too!

247 SCOOTALOO
I don't want to see them. And what
are they doing here, anyway?
They're supposed to be on the
train!

248 APPLE BLOOM
Well, we're not. We're not going.

249 SWEETIE BELLE
Not without YOU, Scootaloo.

250 APPLE BLOOM
Don't you get it? We need you!
We're a team, and teammates don't
leave each other behind. Right,
Rainbow Dash?

251 RAINBOW DASH
Someone kinda realllllly smart
must've told you that. Yup: ME!

Rainbow Dash dashes out of the window and flies back in
through Scootaloo's door.

252 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
What got into you, Scootaloo? You
were so excited to compete.

253 SCOOTALOO
(getting teary)
I didn't want to ruin their chance
to win just because I couldn't fly.

254 RAINBOW DASH
And who said you had to?

255 SCOOTALOO
But flying's what Pegasus ponies
are supposed to do! YOU flew when
you carried the flag in the Games.

256 RAINBOW DASH
But that was me, Scootaloo! You're
you! And it just doesn't matter if
you can fly or not!
(then)
Your routine was awesome 'cause it
represented exactly what makes
Ponyville special.
(then)
You do still know what that is,
right?

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle join them in the room.

257 SWEETIE BELLE
We do. Friendship.

258 APPLE BLOOM
Three kinds of ponies living
together as friends, just like us!
Earth Ponies...

259 SWEETIE BELLE
Unicorns...

260 SCOOTALOO
And Pegasi. But Rainbow Dash...
(lip quivering)
What if - what if my wings never
grow? What if I never fly?

261 RAINBOW DASH
Listen, Scootaloo: maybe you'll fly
someday... or maybe you won't.
You're all kinds of awesome anyway.

262 APPLE BLOOM
We love you the way you are this
very minute: not the way you could
be.

263 SWEETIE BELLE
In fact, we think you're perfect
right now. So what do you say? Will
you come with us to the Crystal
Empire and win this thing?

264 SCOOTALOO
Well...

MUSIC UP: SLOWLY AT FIRST.

265 RAINBOW DASH
*Who's the toughest little pony in
town?
Full of drive, full of moxie.*

266 SWEETIE BELLE
*There's no harder-working pony
around. And we're a team!*

267 APPLE BLOOM
Workin' trio, not solo.

A little faster, Scootaloo joins in, speaking at first.

268 SCOOTALOO
*I never won by sitting down on my
butt*

269 RAINBOW DASH
That's right!

270 SCOOTALOO
*Or by cheating, or playing the
phony.*

271 APPLE BLOOM / SWEETIE BELLE
*You always win because of your
brain and your guts -*

CLOSE ON: Scootaloo: a familiar fire again in her eye.

272 SCOOTALOO
And I'm a proud Pegasus Pony!
(spoken:)
*So let's get to the Crystal Empire.
And let's do the routine as it was.
And let's WIN THIS THING!*

273 SWEETIE BELLE
*But waitasecond: no way we can get
from Ponyville all the way to the
Crystal Empire in time.*

274 APPLE BLOOM
Shoot, nopony could! Not even Big
Mac. But there's not another train
till tomorrow!

275 SCOOTALOO (O.S.)
HEY GUYS...

WHIP TO: Scootaloo, with her scooter, two skis and a rope.

276 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
Just leave it to me.

A dramatic DRUMROLL! STINGS OF MUSIC!

20) EXT. - PONYVILLE - SCOOTALOO'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Rainbow Dash flies out of Scootaloo's house...

Followed by Scootaloo herself, who bursts out of the house on her scooter, towing the other two Crusaders behind her on skis via the rope! (All three are wearing helmets.)

**21) MONTAGE - EXT. - VARIOUS LOCATIONS - PONYVILLE ,
LANDSCAPE - AND CRYSTAL EMPIRE - CONTINUOUS**

A brief montage as the ponies race against time, speeding through Ponyville across the landscape to the Crystal Empire.

277 RAINBOW DASH / ALL THREE CRUSADERS
*We've got hearts strong as horses,
And we're playing to win
In a last minute gallop to glory!
We know we can conquer
any challenge we're in -
We're winners
with hearts strong as horses!*

Scootaloo hits a series of small moguls, towing the other girls behind her. They take the jumps easily.

Rainbow Dash flies above.

278 RAINBOW DASH
What a kid! She reminds me of
someone fantastic. Oh, yeah: ME!

Scootaloo's becoming increasingly confident: she's got her mojo back in a big, big way.

279 RAINBOW DASH / ALL THREE CRUSADERS
*We've got hearts strong as horses,
And we're playing to win
In a last minute gallop to glory!
We know we can conquer
any challenge we're in -
We're winners
with hearts strong as horses!*

ON: Scootaloo heading towards CAM, the girls behind her.
Their eyes widen.

Then we see what they see: a steep hill - and they're heading right for it!

Scootaloo bears down, fiercer and even more determined!

280 SCOOTALOO
I got this.

And CAM goes close in on her as she hits the moguls and launches into an amazing slow motion, Evel Knieval-style loop de loop, as there's a...

MATCH CUT TO:

22) INT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - STADIUM - LATER

We're suddenly watching the finale of the Crusaders' routine. Scootaloo bursts through the paper circle in the hoop as streamers shoot out. The Ponyville flag streams behind her in the breeze, attached on a pole to her scooter. She rides to join the other Crusaders as the organ blares a <FANFARE>.

281 ALL THREE CRUSADERS
PONYVILLE - FOREVER! YAY!

All three Crusaders strike a triumphant pose together.

All over the stadium, ponies in the stands leap to their hooves, <STOMPING> wildly and <CHEERING> like mad.

ON: Rainbow Dash hovering over the stands! She pumps her hoof in the air like a fist pump.

ON: Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon off on the sidelines, in prissy ballet outfits and pink toe shoes. Their mouths drop open.

On a little podium, Ms. Harshwhinny speaks into a megaphone.

282 MS. HARSHWHINNY
(amplified, reverb)
It's unanimous: in the Equestria Games, the Ponyville Flag will be carried by... the "The Cutie Mark Crusaders"!

283 ALL THREE CRUSADERS
WHOO-HOO!

Even <MORE WILD CHEERING.> In the stands, Rainbow Dash and Miss Cheerilee hi-five as below them, Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon slink out of the stadium, fuming.

23) INT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - STADIUM WINNER'S CIRCLE - MINUTES LATER

As at the end of the Kentucky Derby, there's a winner's circle. This one is in the shape of a horseshoe.

Ms. Harshwhinny places victory rose wreaths around the necks of the Crusaders.

284 MS. HARSHWHINNY
For you... And you... and YOU!

285 APPLE BLOOM
Earth Ponies...

286 SWEETIE BELLE
Unicorns...

287 SCOOTALOO
Friends forever, with proud Pegasi, even ones with teeny tiny wings.
(then)
And now we get to do this in the Equestria Games? Totally RAD! I cannot WAIT!

288 RAINBOW DASH (O.S.)
Ahem!

They look up. Rainbow Dash hovers above them.

289 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
(calmly)
Look, what you three did just now was... pretty okay.

290 SCOOTALOO
Just okay?

291 RAINBOW DASH
(losing it)
NO! NOT "just okay": it was
amazingly stupendously the single
most amazing thing I've ever, ever
seen! AAH! PROFESSIONALISM!
(then, calmly)
BUT: if you want it to be even
BETTER at the Games, you're gonna
have to work hard! And train hard.
Might as well start right now.

The three girls nod in agreement.

292 SCOOTALOO
You know what this means, right?

293 APPLE BLOOM
What?

294 SCOOTALOO
We pull this off at the Equestria
Games, we are totally gonna get
Cutie Marks in Flag Carrying.

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle <AD-LIB AGREEMENT>.

Rainbow Dash just shakes her head in disbelief as we...

FADE OUT.

END.