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MY LITTLE PONY 6

"The Cart Before the Ponies"

Episode 615

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TEASER

SC. 1 - EXT. PONYVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE - DAY

SC. 2 - INT. PONYVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

STUDENT PONIES are getting their books out, waiting for class to begin. SWEETIE BELLE sits next to SCOOTALOO and APPLE BLOOM. DIAMOND TIARA, SNIPS, SNAILS, and PIP SQUEAK are also there, among others.

MISS CHEERILEE comes to the chalkboard at the front of the room. She looks unusually droopy, tired, and bedraggled.

1 STUDENT PONIES
Good morning, Miss Cheerilee!

*

2 MISS CHEERILEE
(very forboding:)
Oh my, class - you wouldn't think
it's a good morning at all if you
knew the homework you have coming!

*

*

*

*

3 APPLE BLOOM
Homework? Hold them apples - what's
our homework?

4 MISS CHEERILEE
Oh, it's awful! The first part is
these dry and dusty calculations...

A <STING OF MUSIC>. She points to a tangled mess of math
problems on the board.

*

*

5 MISS CHEERILEE (CONT'D)
Followed by copying all these books
- in "Olde Ponish," a language from
three hundred years ago.

*

A <STING OF MUSIC> as she points to a stack of weighty books.

*

6 MISS CHEERILEE (CONT'D)
Followed by the stinkiest science
experiment imaginable.

*

She pours liquid from a beaker on her desk into a second
beaker. <BANG!> An explosion, with a green STINK CLOUD. A
<STING OF MUSIC> as Miss Cheerilee puts a clothespin on her
nose, and all the students <GAG>.

*

*

7 SCOOTALOO *
Miss Cheerilee, we LOVE school -
but this homework sounds awful!

8 APPLEJACK *
Do we really have to do it? *

9 MISS CHEERILEE *
Well, there's only ONE thing I can *
think of that you could do instead. *

10 SWEETIE BELLE *
ANYTHING! ANYTHING! *

11 MISS CHEERILEE *
You could spend the whole night... *
DESIGNING YOUR CARTS FOR THE *
APPLEWOOD DERBY! *

Miss Cheerilee rips off her outfit - underneath she's wearing *
mechanic's overalls! She pulls a wrench out of nowhere and *
twirls it in her hoof as she yanks down a racing poster from *
the blackboard. *

12 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE *
The Applewood Derby is tomorrow? *
YAY!

The ponies go NUTS! Hi-hooves, prancing, happy mayhem. *

13 SNIPS *
Oh goody - I was afraid we were *
gonna have to - y'know... learn *
something. WHEW!

Snips and Snails hi-hoof as the other students celebrate! *

END TEASER

MAIN TITLE

ACT ONE

SC. 3 - INT. SCHOOLHOUSE - RESUME

Resume on the <CHEERING> Crusaders and Student Ponies. *

14 SCOOTALOO *
Tomorrow we get to race in the *
Applewood Derby? How cool is that? *

15 SWEETIE BELLE
I've been waiting for years and
years. I LOVE that race!

16 MISS CHEERILEE (O.S.)
Me too! I'm actually a bit of a
racing fan.

WHIP PAN - to Cheerilee, still in her mechanic's overalls,
tacking a pair of black and white checkered flags to the
wall.

17 APPLEJACK
You don't say?

18 DIAMOND TIARA
(flipping through
notebooks)
But Miss Cheerilee, the Derby isn't
on the schedule anywhere.

19 MISS CHEERILEE
Of course not, dear. The race
always happens the day after the
apple trees sprout their first
blooms of spring...

Miss Cheerilee points to a blooming tree out the window.
Apple Bloom rushes to the window, too.

20 APPLE BLOOM
(explaining)
That's when the saplings are just
springy enough to use for wood.
And as everypony knows, springy
applewood makes the best carts!

The doors fly open and BIG MAC drags in a big block of wood -
big enough to carve into a cart for a pony. Cheerilee flits
around it excited.

21 MISS CHEERILEE
Precisely! You'll design your carts
tonight. I might even have a few
racing magazines to look through
for inspiration...

She pulls out an absurdly tall STACK OF MAGAZINES from under
her desk.

22 MISS CHEERILEE (CONT'D)
...and tomorrow morning, at Sweet
Apple Acres you'll each get a fresh-
cut block of applewood to shape
into the racecart you'll ride
through the streets of Ponyville
that afternoon.

23 SCOOTALOO
What about the awards - there's
awards, right? Tell us about the
awards!

Miss Cheerilee takes a big box from her desk and opens it.
<ANGELIC VOICES> Inside are a collection of SHINY BLUE
RIBBONS.

24 MISS CHEERILEE
Well, yes, if, and only if, your
cart is race-worthy enough to
finish, you'll be eligible to win
awards: Fastest, for winning the
race, naturally. Most Traditional,
for the best working replica of an
original Applewood cart. And Most
Creative, for the cart with the
best overall design.

The Crusaders stare at glimmering ribbons, transfixed.

25 APPLEJACK
Hoo-eee! Those ribbers are the
bee's knees. But Miss Cheerilee,
applewood is mighty hard to carve!

26 MISS CHEERILEE
That's why you'll need an older
pony to team up with! They'll help
you build your cart and copilot
during the race.

27 APPLE BLOOM
Hmm, I think I know just the pony
to ask!

28 SWEETIE BELLE
Me too!

29 SCOOTALOO
Me three!

30 MISS CHEERILEE
All right, class! Start your
engines!

(MORE)

MISS CHEERILEE (CONT'D)

(off their confused looks)
By which I mean find your older
pony and get to work... it's DERBY
TIME!

The Students all <CHEER> as Cheerilee, beside herself with excitement, grabs a checkered flag off the wall and waves it as we...

CHECKERED FLAG WAVING TRANSITION TO:

SC. 4 - EXT. PONYVILLE - LATER

Headed home, Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle each lug a big stack of racing books behind them with great effort.

31 SWEETIE BELLE
With Rarity on my team, how can I
help but win one of those ribbons?

32 APPLE BLOOM
And I'm gonna ask Applejack for
help, a'course!

Scootaloo scoots by, effortlessly dragging a stack of books tied to a wagon on the back of her scooter.

33 SCOOTALOO
And Rainbow Dash is my ticket to
success - WHOO HOO! Hey, which
ribbons do you ponies want to win?
Let me guess: Apple Bloom, "Most
Traditional," am I right?

Scootaloo opens the book to a picture of an olde-timey race cart. Apple Bloom looks on thoughtfully.

34 APPLE BLOOM
Us Apples always win that one. In
fact, all I ever hear is how Apples
have won "Most Traditional" since
the Derby started!

She flips a page to a picture of a speedy, sporty looking derby cart as it speeds through the finish line.

35 APPLEJACK
But you know, it sure would be fine
to be the fastest for once. But
that'll never happen. Scootaloo, I
bet you want the "Fastest" ribbon.

36 SCOOTALOO

(thinking)

Hmm, you know, if you want to go
for fastest, be my guest! I have a
scooter *that's* pretty fast already.
If I'm going to make a whole cart,
I want it to be different. Way
different.

She flips to a page in the book of "Most Original" winners:
really kooky "Burning Man" style art carts in wild colors.

37 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)

Maybe I'll try to win the award for
"Most Creative." Though Sweetie
Belle, you probably want that prize
and I don't want to step on your
hooves.

38 SWEETIE BELLE

That's very thoughtful, Scootaloo -
but I actually love how the carts
looked in the old days.

She flips back to the picture of the vintage race cart.

39 SWEETIE BELLE (CONT'D)

And since Apple Bloom wants to make
the Fastest cart anyway... I think
I'll try for "Most Traditional".

40 APPLE BLOOM

Crusaders, sounds like we're ALL
gonna try something new! I like the
sound of that.

41 SCOOTALOO

PERFECT! Let's *find* our older
ponies and make the racecarts of
our dreams!

They gallop off as fast as they can drag *off* the *heavy books*.

SC. 5 - INT. DASH'S CLOUD HOUSE - DAY

Dash lounges on a CLOUD SOFA. Scoot stands by looking
excited.

42 RAINBOW DASH

The Applewood Derby, huh? I raced
in the Cloudsdale Derby when I was
just a filly.

FLASHBACK:

SC. 6 - EXT. FIELD - CLOUDSDALE IN THE PAST - DAY

LITTLE RAINBOW DASH races a cloud-cart-toboggan on a luge-like cloud track.

43 LITTLE RAINBOW DASH
THIS. IS. AWESOME! WHOOHOOOOO!

She loop-de-loops.

END FLASHBACK

SC. 7 - INT. DASH'S CLOUD HOUSE - DAY

RESUME ON: Scootaloo, looking wryly at Dash.

44 SCOOTALOO
Annnnd, don't tell me: you won.

45 RAINBOW DASH
Hey, how'd you know?

46 SCOOTALOO
Lucky guess. So what do you say -
will you help me make my racecart?

47 RAINBOW DASH
Help you? I am ALL OVER IT. I've
got tons of ideas. Let's see...
where IS that thing?

Dash starts rummaging behind the sofa, pulling out junk.
Scootaloo dodges random bits of bric-a-brac.

48 SCOOTALOO
Don't worry, I've got a lot of
ideas of my own. Um, what are you
looking for?

49 RAINBOW DASH
The blueprint for my Derby cart, of
course. I'll have to change it a
little cuz this race is on roads,
not clouds... but trust me, your
cart is gonna be AMAZING!

She keeps throwing stuff around.

50 SCOOTALOO
Um, okay, Rainbow Dash, thanks!
(to herself)
How awesome is THIS? With Dash on
my team, how could anything go
wrong?

Dash tosses out something particularly bulky and Scoot has to
move quickly to dodge it.

SC. 8 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - DAY

*

Apple Bloom talks with APPLEJACK on the porch while GRANNY
SMITH rocks in a rocker.

*

51 APPLEJACK
I'm mighty flattered you wanna work
with your big sis on the Applewood
Derby! Why, our family practically
invented this race way back when.

*

*

*

She pulls out a photo album and opens it up. ON A PICTURE: a
young Granny Smith races in an old-fashioned dress and hat,
in an old-timey carriage like a Victorian stagecoach.

*

52 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
See, that there's the first
Applewood Derby race-- way afore my
time. And there's Granny Smith!

53 APPLE BLOOM
Wow - that's you, Granny?

54 GRANNY SMITH
Ayup. I had a need for speed.

55 APPLEJACK
Why, I couldn't be more proud to
help my little sister take that
prize for "Most Traditional!"

56 APPLE BLOOM
Actually I was kinda thinkin' of
somethin' else... Like fastest?

Applejack and Granny Smith <GASP.>

57 APPLEJACK
"Fastest?" Apple Bloom, things
aren't like they were in Granny's
day. The fastest cart now has gotta
be sleek and modern and...

*

58 APPLE BLOOM
Exactly!

59 APPLEJACK
...not Apple at all. We win Most
Traditional. We have since the
Derby started! Why would anypony
want to win anything else?
 (off AB considering)
Now, why don't you head off and get
some chamomile vines, some hickory
sticks, and some apple barrels and
I'll show you what a Apple Family
cart should look like.

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*
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Apple Bloom stares for a second, unsure.

60 GRANNY SMITH
You heard the pony, whippersnapper!
Time's a tickin'!

Applejack starts to sketch on the barn wall with chalk as
Apple Bloom shrugs and trots away.

61 APPLE BLOOM
 (to herself)
I guess I do have a family
tradition to uphold...

*
*

SC. 9 - INT. CAROUSEL BOUTIQUE - DAY

*

CLOSE ON: RARITY, very excited. In fact, OVER-excited.

62 RARITY
...THE APPLEWOOD DERBY? Will I help
out? You BET I will!

*
*

Widen to show Rarity trembling with excitement, as some
SNOOTY PONY CUSTOMERS stare at her, a little alarmed.

63 SWEETIE BELLE
Wow, uh, Rarity, I didn't know
you'd be this excited!

64 RARITY
Me? Why, I'm just itching to right
an old wrong from long, long ago...

FLASHBACK:

SC. 10 - EXT. FIELD - PONYVILLE IN THE PAST - DAY

*

On a field by a checkered finish line, LITTLE RARITY stands expectantly by her tastefully designed derby cart. Big ponies tromp by and surround her. We don't see their faces.

*

*

65 RARITY (V.O.)
I designed my own cart when I was just a filly, and I was positive I was going to win the prize for "Most Creative," hooves down. But I came in second. Second!

*

The ponies trot off - and they've left a '2nd Place' ribbon on Rarity's car. She's thunderstruck.

66 SWEETIE BELLE (V.O.)
You? Second for Most Creative? To whom?

*

*

Little Rarity looks at a wildly tricked out cart next to hers, with a '1st Place' ribbon on it. The winning cart's creator, LITTLE DERPY, smiles proudly and buffs the cart with a cloth. Little Rarity's eyes narrow.

*

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*

END FLASHBACK**SC. 11 - INT. CAROUSEL BOUTIQUE - DAY**

*

RESUME ON: the similarly narrowed eyes of Present-Day Rarity. She starts pulling out reams of fabric.

67 RARITY
But I learned a valuable lesson from that loss! I learned to know my audience, and the racecart audience wants BIG! They want BOLD! It's a lesson that's served me well, though that loss still stings!
(A sudden change to the shopping ponies - comically fierce:)
Chop, chop, everypony out! We have work to do!

*

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*

Rarity starts to chase everypony out of the store.

68 SWEETIE BELLE
Um, Rarity? What are you doing?

69 RARITY
Why, closing up **shop**, of course! *
How can I concentrate with all
these customers around?!
(to one straggler)
You don't have to go home, dear,
but you can't stay here. **OUT!** *

70 SNOOTY PONY
Well, I **NEVER!**

The pony looks outraged as Rarity practically shoves her out of the shop. Rarity starts sketching a design.

71 RARITY
This will take all of my
considerable skills, but I will
fashion the **biggest and boldest** *
derby cart ever to win the prize
for Most Creative!

72 SWEETIE BELLE
Actually, I was sort of thinking of *
something more... traditional.

73 RARITY
(sketching madly)
Please, **darling**, leave tradition to *
the Apples. **We're doing big and** *
bold! *
(almost to herself:)
Soon the prize **for Most Creative** *
will finally be in my hooves!

74 SWEETIE BELLE
You mean MY hooves.

75 RARITY
Yes, That's what I said - "my
hooves." Darling, I hope you're
ready to get an early start
tomorrow.

76 SWEETIE BELLE
Uh, how early?

SC. 12 - EXT. FIELDS AROUND SWEET APPLE ACRES - DAWN *

Dawn is breaking as Rarity trots happily up a hill. **A sleepy** *
Sweetie Belle drags behind her, pulling **a wagon filled with** *
tools and design elements for her racecart. *

77 SWEETIE BELLE
Rarity, the sun's not even up yet!

Applejack and Scootaloo trot up, with Apple Bloom and Scootaloo following. They're both equally exhausted, both dragging similar tool wagons behind them.

*
*
*

78 APPLEJACK
Oh, apples - quit complaining. In my day, we were up even earlier!

79 RAINBOW DASH
Hey, I wouldn't care if I got up in the middle of the night - as long as my cart crosses that finish line first and wins Fastest!

*

80 RARITY
And my cart wins Most Creative!

81 APPLEJACK
And my cart wins Most Traditional! Apples to Betsy, it's gonna be a good day!

Oblivious, the three older ponies trot up the hill, followed close behind by the Crusaders who exchange a shocked look.

82 SCOOTALOO
You mean "our" carts, right?

83 RARITY
That what we said, darling!

84 APPLEJACK
Yep!

85 RAINBOW DASH
Our carts!

<STING OF MUSIC> On the concerned faces of the Crusaders.

*

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 13 - EXT. FIELDS AROUND SWEET APPLE ACRES - DAY

*

Resume on the faces of the Crusaders, aghast.

86 APPLE BLOOM

"Their" carts? It almost sounds like they're planning on building them without us.

*
*

87 SWEETIE BELLE

I bet they meant "our" carts, like the team cart. Right?

88 SCOOTALOO

Of course! I mean they're all our older sisters... practically. They know a ton of stuff we don't. I'm sure they'll have nothing to offer but helpful advice.

O.S.: a loud <AIR HORN>. Jarred, the Crusaders jump. ON: Applejack with an air horn over by her pit stop (a tree). She stands by a fresh-cut block of applewood.

*
*

89 APPLEJACK

All right, pokey li'l ponies! Get a move on. This cart ain't gonna build itself, Apple Bloom!!

Another <AIR HORN>. The Crusaders swivel their attention to Rarity over at her own pit stop by a fence. She has a block of applewood too.

*
*

90 RARITY

Precisely! Everypony to her station on the double. That means you, Sweetie Belle.

*

A third <AIR HORN>. The Crusaders startle again. They turn to Dash up on a hill, already pencilling all over her block.

*
*

91 RAINBOW DASH

You heard what the ponies said! Scoot over here and get to work, Scootaloo. The race starts at noon!

*

The Crusaders turn to each other apprehensively.

92 APPLE BLOOM

You reckon they're gonna order us around all the livelong day?

93 SCOOTALOO

We DID ask them to help. I guess it's the price we have to pay.

*
*

94 SWEETIE BELLE
 Plus they've all done this before. *
 I'm sure they know best. Let's just *
 buckle down and -

<AIR HORNS> again. The ponies jump, really jarred.

95 SWEETIE BELLE (CONT'D)
 (sighing)
 - get to work. Good luck! *

All three Crusaders take up their wagons and begin to trudge *
 off in their three separate directions.

SC. 14 - EXT. FIELDS - SCOOTALOO'S PIT STOP - DAY *

Scotaloo drags her wagon of tools. She <PUFFS AND PANTS>, *
 kicking hard to scoot up the hill with the wagon behind her. *

96 RAINBOW DASH
 Scotaloo, what took you so long?
 I've only got till noon to make the *
 fastest cart ever. Let's see...

She flies around the block, consulting a paper plan.

97 SCOOTALOO
 About that. Like I said, I really *
 want to try for the Most Creative *
 prize. *
 (points to scooter) *
 I know all about speed already. *

Oblivious, Dash reveals a blueprint for a sleek, speedy cart. *

98 RAINBOW DASH
 (not listening) *
 Mm-hmmm... So I'm going with my *
 most aerodynamic, super-speedy
 design. Give me that saw, will you?

Scotaloo gives Dash (O.S.) a saw. *

99 SCOOTALOO *
 Um, Rainbow Dash, are you listening *
 to me? I don't care about speed... *

She's interrupted by a <SAWING SOUND> from O.S. ON: Dash, in *
 safety gear (goggles, gloves etc.) sawing away at the block, *
 which now looks a little cart-shaped. Shards go flying. *

100 RAINBOW DASH *
 (totally not listening) *
 Exactly! It's all about speed. *
 We've gotta get across the finish *
 line to win a prize, so we might as *
 well get there first, right? Hey, I *
 left a bunch of paint cans by the
 road. Bring them up here, would ya?
 Nothing as fun as painting racing
 strips on the winning cart!

She goes back to <SAWING>. As Scootaloo turns and scoots off:

101 SCOOTALOO *
 (sighs) *
 Right. Fun. *

SC. 15 - EXT. FIELDS - APPLE BLOOM'S PIT STOP - DAY *

ON: Applejack intent on her work on the cart (out of frame).
 Apple Bloom keeps peeping over her shoulder.

102 APPLE BLOOM
 Spendin' time building a cart with
 my big sister, why this is just tee-
 rific! You've been mighty busy
 this apple bucking season, huh?

103 APPLEJACK
 Yup! Hey, Apple Bloom - think you
 could give me a little space here?

104 APPLE BLOOM
 Oh, sure, sure - how's it going?

105 APPLEJACK
 Just give me a second... *there!*

Applejack steps away, revealing an old-fashioned stagecoach-
 type cart: a barely street-legal olde-timey "surrey with the
 fringe on top". Apple Bloom stares at it in horror. *

106 APPLEJACK (CONT'D) *
 I mean, it ain't quite finished *
 yet... *

107 APPLE BLOOM
 (relieved)
 Oh, good -

108 APPLEJACK *
 But don't it have the makings of *
 the best cart you ever did see? *
 (MORE)

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

(off Apple Bloom's
troubled expression)

Is somethin' wrong, Apple Bloom?

*

109 APPLE BLOOM

Actually, I was kinda thinking of
something a little more modern. And
less rickety. With maybe a chance
of winning.

*

*

*

110 APPLEJACK

Bless my hooves, I thought we
covered this! Anybody can do
speedy.

111 APPLE BLOOM

I know, but...

112 APPLEJACK

Tradition is all that counts and
who knows tradition better than
Apples? No pony! That's who! So are
you an Apple - or are you an Apple?

*

*

*

*

113 APPLE BLOOM

I'm an Apple. But, what if I just
take off this fringe...

*

*

*

114 APPLEJACK

NO - NOT THE FRINGE!

*

*

Apple Bloom reaches up a hoof and merely touches the fringe -
and the whole front of the cart falls apart with a <CRASH>!

*

115 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

Why, shoot, now I've gotta start
all over from scratch! And it's
almost race time.

*

*

116 APPLE BLOOM

Oh! So, maybe we can redesign it
then... just a little?

117 APPLEJACK

No time! And who'd want to redesign
something that's already perfect?

*

*

Applejack goes back to work as Apple Bloom looks on and
<SIGHS>.

*

*

118 APPLE BLOOM

(to herself)

Right. Perfect.

*

*

SC. 16 - EXT. FIELDS - SWEETIE BELLE'S PIT STOP - DAY

*

Sweetie Belle stands with a clipboard. Rarity is maniacally hard at work at something under a big bulky cloth.

119 SWEETIE BELLE
Okay, so I sketched out some of my ideas. How about a nice yellow fringe on top?

120 RARITY
Oh-ho, darling, fringe is not exactly big. And that yellow is the least bold color I can imagine.

*
*
*

121 SWEETIE BELLE
Well, it doesn't have to be yellow. But I really do love the old-timey style. Like this!

*
*
*

She shows Rarity her clipboard. ON: a picture of a cart, a little like Applejack's but of Sweetie Belle's own design.

122 RARITY
Sweetie Belle, "Old-Timey" is just another word for passé! Besides, there's no competing on that front with the Apples. Applejack's cart is sure to win Most Traditional.

*
*
*

123 SWEETIE BELLE
But it's not Applejack's cart - it's Apple Bloom's!

Rarity grabs tools and gets back to work behind the cloth.

124 RARITY
(not listening)
Darling, remember, BIG and BOLD! I do have a reputation to uphold! It was one thing to lose as a filly, but can you imagine if I didn't win Most Creative now? Ponies might stop buying my couture!

*
*
*
*
*
*

125 SWEETIE BELLE
But we're supposed to be doing this together!

*

126 RARITY
Of course we are, darling. In fact, we just finished! *Voila!*
(she LAUGHS MANIACALLY,
like Dr. Frankenstein)

Rarity whips the cloth off. The cart is extremely avant garde: part swan boat with wings and a giant head, part a sculptural fantasia, with swooping pillars like Disney Hall. Sweetie Belle stares, stunned.

127 RARITY (CONT'D)
I know. You're speechless.

She flips a lever, and the swan wings start to <FLAP>.

128 RARITY (CONT'D)
If that isn't big and bold, I don't
know what is. Isn't it wonderful?

<HUMMING HAPPILY>, she goes back to work.

129 SWEETIE BELLE
(sighs)
Right. Wonderful.

Sweetie Belle trots away, where she's met by Apple Bloom.

130 APPLE BLOOM
Hey, Crusader - how's it goin'?

131 SWEETIE BELLE
(sigh)
Rarity's made the biggest, boldest
cart anypony's ever seen.

She points over at the swan-winged monstrosity.

132 APPLE BLOOM
Wow. Well, Applejack's built
something so traditional it's
practically an antique.

Apple Bloom points over to her sister and their old-timey cart as Scootaloo scoots up.

133 SCOOTALOO
No matter what I say, there's no
talking Rainbow Dash out of making
the fastest cart in Equestria.

The three of them look across the field toward their "sisters" putting the finishing touches on the carts.

134 SWEETIE BELLE
Doesn't look like any of us ended
up with what we wanted.

135 APPLE BLOOM
But I'm sure our older sisters know
what's best, right?

136 SCOOT/SWEETIE BELLE
(hesitant)
Right.

137 APPLE BLOOM
And even if our carts aren't
exactly what we had in mind, it'll
still be fun to drive them to the
finish line.

138 SWEETIE BELLE
Sure. The race is the best part!

139 APPLE BLOOM
Yeah. CMCs behind the wheels!

They all <CHEER> AS O.S. a <CLOCK BONGS>. They look off in
the distance at the Ponyville clock as the hands move to noon
- the time begins to strike!

140 MISS CHEERILEE (O.S.)
Derby Racers, to the starting line!
Derby Racers, to the starting line!

A <ROLLING AND RACING SOUND> and a CLOUD OF DUST as
Scootaloo, Sweetie Belle, and Apple Bloom's carts roll up--
with Rainbow Dash, Rarity, and Applejack behind the wheels!
(wearing helmets and seatbelts).

141 RAINBOW DASH
The race is about to start,
Scootaloo. You better shake a leg
if you want a ride in the winning
cart.

With that Dash pedals off toward the starting line.

142 RARITY
You too, Sweetie Belle. There's
only one seat left aboard this
Creative masterpiece and it's just
for you.

Rarity takes off after Dash. Applejack starts peddling her
rickety cart after them.

143 APPLEJACK
Whoa, ponies! Wait for me! This
traditional cart handles at the
exact perfect pace. Slow!
(MORE)

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
 (shouting back over her
 shoulder)
 And I got the passenger seat all
 warmed up for you, Apple Bloom!

The Crusaders stare as their sisters peddle off.

144 APPLE BLOOM
 Passenger seat?

The Crusaders exchange distraught looks as we...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 17 - EXT. FIELDS - STARTING LINE - DAY

The three shocked Crusaders watch as Derby carts pull up to the starting line, each one with a young pony in the driver's seat and an older pony in the passenger seat. Dash, Applejack, and Rarity drive up alongside the others.

145 SCOOTALOO
 They're the only older ponies
 driving!

146 SWEETIE BELLE
 First they built the carts - now
 they're gonna drive them?

147 APPLE BLOOM
 I know they were all excited to
 help, but I don't think they're
 really helping any more.

ON: Miss Cheerilee, who whips out a trumpet and plays a quick
 <FANFARE A LA THE CALL AT THE START OF THE KENTUCKY DERBY>.

148 SCOOTALOO
 We better hurry if we want to be
 part of this race at all!

The Crusaders rush to the starting line. Tension as they hop into the passenger seats of their older "sisters'" carts.
 (*NOTE: everypony in a racecart wears a seatbelt and helmet.)

QUICK CUTS: the three older ponies eye their competition as they get ready to take the racecourse.

149 MISS CHEERILEE
 Racers, on your marks...
 Get set... GO!

And the Derby is ON! The carts zoom off like the drag race from *Grease*, with the Crusaders holding on for dear life.

150 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
AAAAAAAH!

Rainbow Dash, Applejack, and Rarity drive ahead like mad, with the Crusaders in the passenger seats, manes blown back. *

SC. 18 - EXT. FARM / PONYVILLE - DAY *

A racing flag flaps across CAM. Resume: the race is underway!

Cross cut between the three carts as they start off from the farm, following the steep, curving racetrack toward town-- the Crusaders still in the passenger seats. ON: Sweetie Belle, mane blown back as she rides along. *

151 SWEETIE BELLE
AAAAH!

ON: Scootaloo, holding on for dear life:

152 SCOOTALOO
AAAAHHHH!

ON: the freaked-out face of Apple Bloom:

153 APPLE BLOOM
AAAH... can't we go any faster?

PULL WIDE: to show Apple Bloom is simply annoyed that the cart is going at a snail's pace as other pony racers zoom by, leaving them in the dust.

154 APPLEJACK
Why go any faster? Whoo-ee, this is perfect! *

SONG BEGINS: "GIDDY UP, DERBY RACERS!" *

In the drivers' seats, Dash, Rarity, and Applejack race down the track, steering their carts down switchback curves through the streets of Ponyville (think: Gran Prix). *

Thus begins a fast-paced, heart-pounding RACING SONG (think the "Speed Racer" theme - especially the jacked-up techno version from the movie by Ali Dee and the DeeKompressors).

Cross-cut Rarity, Applejack, and Rainbow Dash as they drive the carts... *

...with the Crusaders in the passenger seats, who chime in with opposing verses.

Miss Cheerilee and some of the Student Ponies, dressed as cheerleaders, line the streets to cheer on the racers. Other Spectator ponies cheer from the sidelines as the carts speed by, sometimes splashing the spectators with mud.

*
*
*

155 MISS CHEERILEE / CHEERLEADER PONIES
Giddy-up, *Derby Racers!*
Giddy-up, *Derby Racers!*
Giddy-up, *Derby Racers - GO GO GO!*

*
*
*

156 APPLEJACK
Check me out: racin' the Derby!
Check out my old-fashioned cart!

157 RARITY
Check me out: racing the Derby
in my original work of art!

158 RAINBOW DASH
Check me out: faster than ever,
Nobody's catching me now!

Split Screen of the three Crusaders, *their expressions*
running from frustration to terror:

*
*

159 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
Let me out! I'd do it over -
if only I knew how!

*

160 MISS CHEERILEE / CHEERLEADER PONIES
Giddy-up, Derby Racers!
Giddy-up, Derby Racers!
Giddy-up, Derby Racers - GO GO GO!

*
*
*

Syncopation, *aaaa*and... a *RAP BREAK!*

*

161 RARITY
My cart's most original!
I designed it with imagination.

162 APPLEJACK
My cart's most traditional!
It's simple, ain't no complication.

163 RAINBOW DASH
Me? I'm on the case! The Ace!
So give up the chase, Dash just
ain't losing this race to home base
Yeah, you can see it in my face!

*

164 RARITY
But wait! It'll be me for the win
When I steer my cart in.
Yeah I am IN IT TO WIN IT
watch me stitch it and pin it -
Then zip and skip and flip me up.

165 APPLEJACK
YEE-HAW! Nothing's gonna trip me up
this time, feelin' fine
As I amble towards the finish line!

The big wheels on Applejack's cart bounce her like a low-rider in a rap video.

166 RAINBOW DASH
Ponies, leave me room as I zoom
With the boom and the speed!

167 RARITY
I've got a fabulous design -
and that's all that I need.

168 APPLEJACK
Y'all, I'm down with tradition -
That's AJ's only mission.

169 RARITY / RAINBOW DASH / APPLEJACK
I'm riding high, living large -
Could this day be any better?

Again, a split-screen of the 3 Crusaders *separately*.

170 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
Yes if we were in charge!

171 MISS CHEERILEE / CHEERLEADER PONIES
Giddy-up, Derby Racers!
Giddy-up, Derby Racers!
Giddy-up, Derby Racers - GO GO GO!

Rainbow Dash, far ahead, passes by Applejack via a switchback section of the track. From the passenger seat, Scootaloo calls out to Applebloom:

172 SCOOTALOO
Having any fun?

173 APPLEBLOOM
Nope! Wish I had speed like you!

Rarity passes by Applejack in similar fashion, Sweetie Belle calling out to the others as they ride by each other on the back and forth curves of track.

174 SWEETIE BELLE

*We're just along for the ride -
there's nothing we can do!*

*
*

Excited, Rarity starts working the levers of the cart,
flapping her swan wings harder and harder, forcing other
carts to steer clear.

*
*
*

175 RARITY

*Gotta get some attention if I want
that ribbon!*

*
*
*

Dash looks up and spots the finish line, then peddles fast
and faster, her wheels starting to come up on every turn.

*
*

176 RAINBOW DASH

*Gotta push the limits and blow away
the competition!*

*
*
*

Far behind, Applejack moseys down the track like a Sunday
driver-- racecars stacked up behind her trying to pass.

*
*

177 APPLEJACK

*Gotta coast on through like we're
on a cruise.*

*
*
*

ANGLE ON - Apple Bloom in the passenger seat, arms folded.

*

178 APPLE BLOOM

*Guess I don't care since we're
gonna lose.*

*
*
*

Rarity flaps her wings so hard the cart starts to lift off
the ground.

*
*

179 RARITY

Bigger Bolder down the track.

*
*

The cart drivers behind Applejack get frustrated and start to
pass on the next curve.

*
*

180 APPLEJACK

*Lovin' the view from the back of
the pack.*

*
*
*

Dash bears down, her wheels coming up on the next turns as
she, Rarity, and Applejack all converge (on different
sections of the twisting, switchback track).

*
*
*

181 RAINBOW DASH

We'll be first without a doubt!

*
*

Scootaloo points at one of Rarity's giant swan wings sticking
out from her section of track-- right in their path!

*
*

182 SCOOTALOO *
Unless we crash... *

ANGLE ON - Dash turning the wheel hard. *

ANGLE ON - All the carts swinging wide to get around Applejack. *

ANGLE ON - Rarity's swan wing lever coming off in her hooves. *

183 RARITY / RAINBOW DASH / APPLEJACK *
LOOK OUT!!! *

There's an O.S. <CRASH>.

END SONG

ANGLE ON - a giant pile-up of derby carts, stacked on top of each other in a giant puddle of mud. Everypony's clearly uninjured - but they're disgruntled, yards from the finish. *

As everypony extricates themselves from the wreckage. The three older ponies look up at the remains of their carts. *

184 RARITY *
My beautiful swan cart is an ugly duckling! *

185 APPLEJACK *
And my old time cart is a rootin'-tootin' wreck! *

Dash tries to shove her wrecked cart toward the finish. *

186 RAINBOW DASH *
It still counts as a win if I push my cart across, right? *

ANGLE ON - the Crusaders, covered in mud, almost beside themselves in anger, until the BURST: *

187 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE *
THEY'RE NOT YOUR CARTS! *

Their voices echo. Everybody stops and stares at them. *

188 RARITY / RAINBOW DASH / APPLEJACK *
HUH?!?! *

189 APPLE BLOOM *
We were supposed to design them. *

190 SCOOTALOO *
And we were supposed to drive them. *

191 SWEETIE BELLE
 The Derby was supposed to be for
 us, not the three of you! Now
 you've ruined it for everypony!

*
 *
 *
 *

She points with a hoof. ON: all the other carts, broken down
 in the mud. The three older ponies survey the damage-- the
 situation sinking in for the first time.

*
 *
 *

Rarity looks at a section of her cart's swan wing, still
 flapping.

*
 *

192 RARITY
 Yes. Well, I suppose we might have
 gotten a teensy bit carried away.

*
 *
 *

193 APPLEJACK
 But I thought you all wanted our
 help.

*
 *
 *

194 SCOOTALOO
 To build our carts. Not yours.
 (to Dash)
 I know you wanted the fastest cart
 ever, but I wanted something else.

*
 *
 *
 *
 *

Sweetie Belle looks to Rarity.

195 SWEETIE BELLE
 I just wanted to design something
 that reminded me of how the Derby
 started, not a flying swan!

*

She points at their cart, it's broken wings still flapping.
 Applejack looks to Apple Bloom.

196 APPLEJACK
 I'm guessin' you feel the same way?

197 APPLE BLOOM
 Honestly, Applejack, I know how
 important our family traditions
 are, but I just wanted to win the
 race.

*
 *

198 RARITY
 (sighs)
 I suppose we all forgot what the
 Derby was supposed to be about...

*

199 RAINBOW DASH
 ...and who it was supposed to be
 for. Sorry, Scootaloo. I guess I
 sorta did take over a little.

200 APPLEJACK
And I guess we owe the three of you
an apology.

*
*

PULL OUT ON: the pileup of carts.

201 APPLE BLOOM
Maybe more than just us.

*

The three older ponies look out at the mess, embarrassed.
Dash turns to Miss Cheerilee.

*
*

202 RAINBOW DASH
How do you feel about a do over?

*
*

SC. 19 - EXT. FIELDS AROUND SWEET APPLE ACRES - DAY

*

ON: Miss Cheerilee at the starting line with her horn.

*

203 MISS CHEERILEE
Well, it isn't every year I get to
say this twice, but... *Derby
Racers, to the starting line! Derby
Racers, to the starting line!*
Applewood Derby, take two!

*
*
*
*
*

The student ponies pull up to the starting line with repaired
carts. This time, no adult ponies drive with them.

*
*

Last of all: the Crusaders pull up. This time, they're in the
drivers' seats. The three older ponies rush over like a pit
crew, putting finishing touches on their revised carts. [All
three now wear grease-stained coveralls and ball caps.]

*
*
*
*

ON: Rarity's art cart, with Scootaloo driving. The swan head
is now painted like a bird of prey.

*
*

204 SCOOTALOO
Thanks for helping us fix up our
carts. Pretty creative, right?

*
*
*

ON: Apple Bloom behind the wheel of Dash's sleek cart, as
Applejack adjusts its new spoiler.

*
*

205 APPLE BLOOM
I know it's not traditional, but it
sure looks fast, don't it?

*
*
*

ON: Sweetie Belle behind the wheel of the "traditional cart"
now spruced up with fringe and yellow lace. Rarity fixes the
last of the fringe.

*
*
*

206 RARITY
 You know, darling, I can't believe
 I'm saying this - but that yellow
 fringe is rather bold after all!

Crusaders look to their older 'sisters'.

207 SWEETIE BELLE
 Thanks, everypony! We couldn't have
 done it without you.

The Crusaders wave and pedal to the starting line.

208 APPLEJACK
 Yup, I sure am glad Ms. Cheerilee
 agreed to run the race over again.

209 RAINBOW DASH
 And it's probably best keeping all
 the grown ups on the sidelines, but
 what are we supposed to do now?

210 RARITY
 I think I have an idea...

CUT TO:

SC. 20 - EXT. PONYVILLE - FINISH LINE - DAY

LATER: spectators <CHEER> as Apple Bloom leads the race
 towards the finish line while...

OFF TO THE SIDE: Rainbow Dash, Rarity, and Applejack lounge
 in beach chairs, wearing shades and drinking what is clearly
 apple cider -- like soccer moms.

211 RARITY
 Much better. Honestly, I'm not sure
 WHY we ever wanted to race those
 carts in the first place.

212 RAINBOW DASH
 Seriously! I didn't know how tense
 I was. This is the most relaxed
 I've been all day...

When she sees Scootaloo approaching the finish line, Rainbow
 Dash gives in to one last burst of aggression:

213 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
 GO SCOOTALOO!!! GO!!!
 (off the looks of the
 other two:)
 (MORE)

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

Er, I mean... This is the life -
right, ponies?

She settles back into her lounge chair, flips down her
sunglasses, and <SIGHS> happily.

MUSIC UP. SONG REPRISE:

On the track, a happy Apple Bloom breaks the finish tape,
followed in quick succession by Scoot, other ponies - and
finally Sweetie Belle and Diamond Tiara. All are having a
total blast.

As they glide to a stop, Miss Cheerilee puts prize ribbons on
their carts. The happy Crusaders got just what they wanted:
"Fastest" (Applejack), "Most Original" (Scootaloo) and "Most
Traditional" (Sweetie Belle!

214 MISS CHEERILEE / CHEERLEADER PONIES
Giddy-up, Crusaders!
Giddy-up, Crusaders!
Giddy-up, Crusaders GO GO GO GO GO!

The Crusaders jump and hi-hoof in mid-air. Freeze as we...

FADE OUT.

END