

# Shuttle diplomacy works for the Jays

**By Marty Niedbala**  
Special Writer

**SOUTHFIELD** — The Southfield boys track team served notice this past weekend that it is ready to defend its Class A title as the Blue Jays finished fourth at the prestigious Mansfield-Mehock Relays in Mansfield, Ohio.

Dayton (Ohio) Dunbar won the 57th event with 58 points. Gary (Ind.) Roosevelt was second with 33 and Cincinnati Princeton finished third with 27.

Southfield scored 23¾ points, placing in six of the nine events it entered, a fact noticed by Coach Tom Eschmann.

"With the exception of Dunbar scoring in six events, no one else did. We nickled and dimed every-one," Eschmann said Sunday.

Southfield's first-place shuttle hurdle relay team of Jeff Gibson, Cassidy Wright, Marvin Reynolds and Chris Porter set the only meet record with a time of 58.43 seconds.

"I was so excited about it being a school record that I didn't realize the meet record," Eschmann said.

Wright was the top point-getter for the Jays. The senior finished

fifth in the 110 meter high hurdles in 14.64 and fifth in the 400 dash in 49.7.

Gibson took third in the 300 intermediate hurdles in 38 flat and Ricky Duncan tied for fourth in the high jump by clearing the opening height of 6 feet, 3 inches in rainy conditions. Dan Reddan of Rochester won the event with a leap of 6-6.

Dearborn Fordson and Monroe tied with Cleveland Collinwood for fifth with 20 points each, while five-time defending champion Toronto Central Tech placed eighth with 19.

Marcello Ortiz of Fordson won the 1500 run in 3 minutes, 56.78 seconds and anchored the winning distance medley relay, which went 7:42.

Tim Pitcher of Monroe won the 800 in 1:54.5 and anchored the Trojans' winning effort in the 4x1600 relay at 17:56.6.

Other Michigan winners were Brian Grosso of Walled Lake Western in the 3000 with an 8:37.3 and sophomore Tyrone Wheatley of Dearborn Robiehaud in the 100 dash at 10.8.

**There's a summary of Saturday's Andover Relays on Page 2C.**