

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO! And just like that, the boy's track team season took off. Practice started in March and completion began in early April. Despite that the team had little preparation for meets, the boys stepped up and competed at their best in every event. The boys ran faster, jumped higher, threw farther and cleared higher heights, defeating opponents.

The time eventually came for the team's first meet. All the hard work was about to be paid off. The team traveled to Ross High School for the Southwest Coaches Classic. At the Coaches Classic, the boys competed against the best in the area. The boys competed with every intention to do their best and in the end they placed ninth out of thirty teams. **Brad Neumann, 12**, won the 1600 meters race and finished second in the 3200 meter race. Neumann's goal that season was to beat the school's mile time. Each meet he got closer and closer. **Pat Tepe, 11**, ran hard in the 800 meter race and placed, along with **Jesse Key, 11**, in the long jump. The 3200 meter relay team composed of **Mark Daniels, 12**, **Connor**



1. Measure that distance! Chase Jones, 12, helped out in measurements of the discus field event. How far did the discus go?

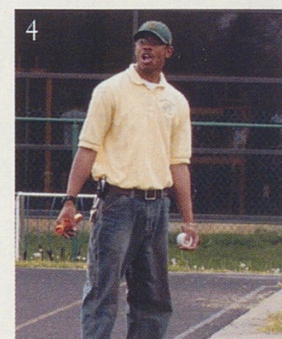


2. Ready, set, go! Tobias Enders, 12, sprints the 100 meter dash. In less than 15 seconds the race was over.



1. Side by side! Pat Tepe, 11, and Jules Rosen, 10, race side by side during the Gold Baton Relays. The boys ran in the 6400 relay.

2. Record breaker! Brad Neumann, 12, held the 800 meter best time and was a member of the fastest 3200 relay team. Neumann raced all season to beat the 1600 meter record. On May 3, Neumann ran a mile, which left the old mile time in the dust.



4. Eyes glued to his men! Head coach, Mr. Hank Ray, watched with pride as his team warmed up before a meet. Coach Ray was also the sprinting coach.

A record brecking season Training to be the best

By Laura Eastes

Sage, 12, **Matt Morin, 12**, and Tepe blew the competitions away.

The season went on and the team competed more and more. At the Elder Rally Invitational, the team finished second. The boys all worked together to receive the top place. **Devin Rhodes, 11**, won first place in the long jump at a height of six feet and two inches. Neumann ran the two mile at a time of 9:41.6, placing him in first place. Tepe also won first place in the 800 meter run. Another first place finish came from the 3200 meter relay team. The invitational built up the confidence of the team. Now the boys were able to compete against anyone.

Finally, the time came for the Gold Baton Relay Invitational held at home. The boys were pumped up for their only home meet. The week of the meet, the boys were named team of the week by Student Council. Students flocked to the stadium to watch as the boys took on teams from all over the area. The boys made sure not to disappoint the crowd and finished in third place. The 6400 meter relay team ran to a first place finish with a time of 18:33.5. All first place winners received their own gold baton instead of a medal. The rest of the finishers received ribbons. Since the invitational was only of relays, the sprinting, hurdles, and distance events were all relays. Four individuals would compete in one event. The uniqueness of the invitational lead many schools to compete. The Gold Baton relays were a huge success. Most of the boys wished for more home meets.

"The Gold Baton Relays, at home, was my favorite meet because it has fun races, a big home crowd, and good competition," said **Ben Sage, 10**.



2. Dash for the win! Jesse Key, 11, competed in the 100 meter dash, the 200 meter dash, long jump, and relays. Key gave his all to the team, therefore he was a major threat in the GMC.



3. Headed for Height! Steve Vetter, 12, ran to reach better measurements in pole vaulting. Vetter placed at many meets. At the Southwest Coaches Classic, he competed with the best in Southwest Ohio and placed.

