

# SCHOOLBOY JUGGLER

Yash Sukhwani's style of shuffling between academics and the extracurricular won him gold yesterday

SATISH MALAVADE



**GOLDEN RUN:** Yash Sukhwani on his way to success in the Boys U-14 400m race yesterday. The 13-year-old will compete in the 800m run today

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**W**ant to know how to juggle studies and sports? Just 13-year-old Aditya Birla World Academy School (Tardeo) student Yash Sukhwani.

Sukhwani, who won gold in the Boys Under-14 400metre event of the Mumbai School Sports Association (MSSA) Annual Inter-school Athletic Championship at Goregaon Sports Complex yesterday, is fresh from one such juggling act between the aca-

ademic and the extra-curricular.

As one of his papers clashed with yesterday's race, Sukhwani was forced to take special permission to attempt two papers in a day. Permission granted; Sukhwani ensured he repaid the faith of his gurus by stopping the clock at 55.1seconds, a timing that was enough to land him the 400m gold.

"The school has supported me a lot everytime. It was a bit difficult to manage two papers in a day, but I had no option as I want to win the MSSA championship this year," said Sukhwani, who answered both his biology and maths papers on Monday.

And today, when he lines up for

the 800m final, his classmates will be giving the Spanish Listening exam. Sukhwani is no stranger to such acts of jugglery and will answer two exams during the forthcoming Christmas vacations. "I have given two papers twice and a single paper on a holiday, which is Saturday," he explained.

His father, Ajay, is thrilled with the way his son's management style and said the school was really supportive.

"Yash will be attempting his Art and EVS exam during his Christmas vacations," Ajay said.

"Not many school come forward to help an athlete, a lot of things are done for popular game like cricket and

football, but I am thankful to the school principal, who stood by my son and took this decision."

Yash snatched gold ahead of Udayachal's Siddesh Kotkar and Aryan Singh (Bombay Scottish School), who rounded the podium in that order.

**RESULTS: Boys (U-14) 400m:** Yash Sukhwani (Aditya Birla); Siddesh Kotkar (Udayachal), Aryan Singh (Bombay Scottish); **Boys Inters (U-16) 400m:** Alden Noronha (St. Dominic Savio), Chaitanya Prabhu (Jamnabai), Rishikesh Kotkar (Udayachal); **Girls (U-16) 400m:** Isabelle Lobo (Dhirubhai), Maria Karachiwala (St. Agnes), Pearlin Debara (Manekji Cooper).