Naperville North's Dan Curran takes a lead on Andrew's Matt Withrow during Saturday's Gus Scott Invitational in Naperville.

Huskies keep pace

Curran brothers lead Huskies to invitational title

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Naperville North gave an early indication of how it won its own Gus Scott Invitational.

Andrew's Matt Withrow, the 2003 Foot Locker National Cross Country titleist, had tailored his training to create a special 3,200-meter race Saturday in Naperville.

It was special, 14 seconds sliced off Withrow's own 2002 meet record to win in 9:15.3.

But right with him much of the race, and earning second and third place, were Huskies Dan and Joe Curran.

In a meet that let Naperville North's youth serve by counting frosh-soph relays in the total score, the Huskies had three event winners but multiple place-winners in five events and scorers in 10 others.

Pleased when his team won the DuPage Valley Conference indoor title, Huskies coach Jack Wright seemed more pumped Saturday.

"More than anything, I'm terrifically enthusiastic about not only their performances but for them to be able to win our home meet I think is really a feather in their cap," said Wright, happy for seniors like Dwight Carter, who won the 100 dash and anchored a victorious 800-meter relay.

Naperville North's 136 points outdistanced New Trier and Andrew — with boys MVP, hurdler Dave Dobersztyn — each at 107. Waubonsie Valley scored 95, St. Charles East 82 and Benet 80.

Facing Withrow, the Curran twins challenged from the start. Dan led briefly in the

Track

second mile before the 2003 Class AA cross country winner took off.

"He's made moves before in cross country before where he's broken me at about the mile mark," Dan Curran said, "so I expected a move today. It was good to stay with it."

Waubonsie Valley's Durrell Williams won the 800, but in a way he still wanted to hang with the Andrew star.

"I knew Withrow was going to be here," Williams said, "so this is a good chance to show what I could do."

Pressured by Benet's Kyle Mikowski, Williams gritted his teeth down the stretch to set a personal best, tie Waubonsie Valley's school record and establish a meet record, all with his time of 1:55.5 in the 800.

"I feel real good," Williams said. "A little dazed — it's kind of hot out here."

Before the sun took full effect, Benet senior Mike Schubert placed second in discus with a personal-best 141-5, then won the shot put at 54-4.

"I've got a ways to go," said Schubert, headed to Notre Dame to throw. "It's something to build on. I'm going for 60 (feet) this year."

Girls events: Benet's Jen Weizeorick was named the girls' MVP at the Gus Scott invite, winning the long and triple jumps and both hurdles races.

Just don't try to convince her to run the 300-meter hurdles for a living — although Saturday she called it "my most exciting event."

"I don't like that event," said Weizeorick, who qualified downstate last year in both long and triple jump.

"I'm not a big long-distance runner," she said. "I know it's not a long race, but it's not my

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Benet's Jen Weizeorick was named the girls MVP on Saturday at the Gus Scott Invitational at Naperville North. She scored 40 points for the Redwings.

favorite event. My coach makes me run it."

Behind Weizeorick's 40-point contribution and results such as the 9:33.5 meet record set in the 3,200 relay by Jeanine Bentley, Ruth Swedler, Caitlin Novak and Abby Higgins, Benet took second, a point behind New Trier, 151-150.

Weizeorick may not be a distance runner. Naperville North's Lisa Bonistalli is.

Helping the Huskies to third place with 145 points, the Iowa-bound senior started fast

and held big leads throughout in the 1,600 and 3,200.

The 2003 Class AA fifth-place finisher in the long race, Bonistalli won the 3,200 in a 29-second margin. She won the 1,600 by nearly 13 seconds.

She said she likes running alone. She had to love Saturday.

"Alone I'm a lot more relaxed, actually," she said. "And it's kind of nice just not having to worry about anyone because I can just focus on myself."