

Overall winner Chris Spisak leads deep Cherokee boys team to commanding Suffern Invite title at Bear Mountain!!!!

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Reuben Frank

Led by overall winner Chris Spisak, Cherokee packed all seven of its runners in the top 16 and recorded a commanding win in the Varsity B race at the Suffern Invitational Saturday at Bear Mountain State Park in Rockland County, N.Y.

Spisak, a junior, led from start to finish, covering the hilly three-mile course in 15:38.4 and winning by about 35 meters over Ryan Guerci of Nanuet.

Junior Ethan Wechsler took fourth in 16:13 and junior Chase Miller was ninth in 16:40. Not far back was a pack of four Cherokee runners in a row — sophomores Brett Shea and Nico Grilli, junior Michael Gavio and senior David Jackson took 13th through 16th in a six-second span from 16:51 through 16:57.

In team points, Cherokee went 1-4-8-12-13-14-15. Cherokee could have scored all seven runners while every other school scored five and the Chiefs still would have won the team title.

Cherokee had its seventh runner across the line before anybody else had its fourth runner finish.

Cherokee finished with a 38-82 margin of victory over Mount Academy of Esopus, N.Y., near Poughkeepsie.

The Chiefs also won the JV A race, with junior Robert Hackney, sophomore Dylan Odud and junior Tyler Jackson sweeping the top three places in 17:28, 17:29 and 17:34.

Senior Michael Moraschi placed eighth in 18:07, junior Matthew Campbell and sophomore Bryan Lafferty ran 12th and 13th in 18:16 and 18:19 and Tyler Ortiz made it seven Chiefs in the top 20 with a 17th-place finish in 18:56 out of more than 200 runners.

Cherokee outscored second-place Suffern 26-50 to win the JV A team title.

Cherokee took sixth in the freshman race, led by Aiden Dickinson in 29th place in 10:52 over a 2,400-meter course.