

## Cherokee's Nick Kuenkel edges Collingswood' Elijah Forrest to win Battle @ Ocean County Park and lead Cherokee to No. 1 merge!!!!!!

**Reuben Frank**

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**Nick Kuenkel** ran the fastest time of the day, and Cherokee edged St.Peter's Prep by one point in the team merge at Friday's Battle at Ocean County Park in Lakewood.

Kuenkel won the Senior Race in 15:22 over 5,000 meters, finishing seven seconds ahead of 2nd-place Elijah Forrest of Collingswood, whose 15:29 was the 2nd-fastest time of the day.

**Senior Robert Poplau** ran 15:50 and was 4th in the Senior Race and 5th-fastest overall, **Liam Tindall** ran 16:11 for 6th in the junior race and 15th-fastest overall, **Logan Bromley** won the sophomore race in 16:13 and was 16th-fastest overall and **Benjamin Weiner** was 10th in the junior race and 29th overall in 16:26.

Additionally, **Benjamin Realley** placed 2nd in the freshman race in 10:53 over two miles. The freshman race didn't figure into team scoring.

Cherokee edged St. Peter's Prep of Jersey City 65-66 to win the team merge. Cherry Hill East placed 5th with 169 points and Washington Township was 8th with 351. Some 45 schools ran full teams.