

Nico Grilli, Brett Shea lead Cherokee to 7th straight Burlington County title!!!

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Seniors Nico Grilli and Brett Shea ran 1-2 to lead Cherokee to its seventh straight Burlington County Open XC title.

It's also Cherokee's 19th team title in the last 24 years.

Grilli ran 16:28 and Shea 16:41 over the 5,000-meter course at the Rancocas Valley Athletic Complex in Eastampton.

It was the first time the race was held at a site other than Mill Creek Park in Willingboro in 40 years. It was held at Burlington County College in Pemberton from its inception in 1970 until 1979.

For Cherokee, senior Dylan Odud ran 17:03 for 7th, sophomore Patrick Ditmars 17:17 for 12th and sophomore Conor Jacob 7:24 for 13th.

Cherokee outscored second-place Shawnee 56-35, with Moorestown third with 85 points. The second place is Shawnee's best finish since 2006, when the Renegades won the team title 56-63 over Seneca. Third place is Moorestown's best team finish since it was second to Cherokee in 2014.