

RBC Advances To SCT Semifinal With Wild OT Win

By Brian Deakyne



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Amanda Casten held down the fort defensively for RBC, along with assisting on Grace Correll's game-winning goal in their round of 16 win over Toms River East last Friday.

RED BANK — Red Bank Catholic senior forward MacKenzie Cowley is used to being the best.

For the last two years, she's been the best player for the Lady Caseys and one of the best overall goal-scorers in the Shore Conference, arguably.

So in the second overtime against 13-seeded Colts Neck in the Shore Conference Tournament quarter-final, and even after playing a mediocre 90 minutes, Cowley knew she would have to play a part if fifth-seeded Red Bank Catholic was going to advance any further.

She did just that; belting home the game-winning goal in the 93rd minute when she put home her own rebound off the crossbar to give Red Bank Catholic the 3-2 win.

"It was so unbelievable. Honestly, my thought was we're going to PK's. It's the second overtime, we just wanted to keep the ball in our end and try to hold it there," Cowley said.

The goal capped off a wild second half of the game. After a scoreless, and rather uneventful opening 40 minutes, the Caseys and Cougars scored five times over the final 36 minutes. Junior midfielder Elizabeth Thoreser scored twice for the Caseys - including a game-tying penalty kick in the 75th minute - to help the Caseys battle back against Colts Neck.

"I just had this confidence, I knew we weren't scoring but we were close, Red Bank Catholic head coach Ken Santos said. "We had to keep plugging away