

*A Central Baseball*

# Streaking Caseys Slide Past Rumson-Fair Haven

By Brian Deakne



SCOTT LONGFIELD

Red Bank Catholic's John Selden pitched six scoreless innings and struck out six in the 5-0 win over Rumson-Fair Haven.



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The Caseys' Anthony Yaccarine (27) beats out a play at first against Rumson-Fair Haven. Yaccarine went 2-for-3 in the game.

**R**ED BANK - There is no question that Red Bank Catholic is the best baseball team in Shore Conference.

But, that's not stopping any team from trying to knock off the Casey's - especially in their newly refurbished turf facility at Count Basie Field.

That was Rumson's plan Tuesday night, but Red Bank Catholic had other plans in mind. After an early pitchers' duel, the Casey's led on the offense and had a four-run fourth inning enroute past the slumping Bulldogs, 5-0.

We had it all last week - so all we've dealt with late-

ly," Red Bank Catholic head coach Buddy Hausmann said of getting high efforts from opponents. "It makes teams' seasons when they can knock us off and we usually get very good efforts because we also have ties. Some of them played together, they're all together; they all know each other, that's the big thing."

Junior designated hitter Matt Kurdewan opened up that spirited fourth inning with a solo home run to left-center field, although it did come with controversy. The shot appeared to bounce on the warning track and bounce over the fence, but the umpires ruled it a home run, but

and that call stood after a lengthy meeting that included a heavy argument from Rumson-Fair Haven head coach Gary Costello.

Later in the inning, senior center fielder Joe Iacobellis brought home sophomore left fielder Chris Bender with a run-scoring triple down the right field line to push the Casey's lead to 3-0. Iacobellis scored in the next at-bat, when junior second baseman Brenden Madigan slapped a single to center field.

Madigan scored one batter later to up Red Bank Catholic's lead to 5-0, when senior third baseman Michael Rescigno reached base on an error, but

was thrown out in an attempt to advance to second base to end the inning.

Despite the slow start, that fourth inning was more than enough to give Casey's senior pitcher John Selden a lead to win the game.

"The last few games we've kind of done that, it's taken until the second inning to get going," Hausmann said. "But, we've been grinding out at-bats, working pitch counts, we play defense and we've put the ball in play and we've had some breaks here and there, but we're finally starting to capitalize on them, which is what you need to do at this point."

Selden gave the Casey's six solid innings, pitching a shutout on three hits. He struck out six batters and walked just one as he was in command throughout the night.

"[I was] just pitching to contact and staying ahead in the count and working in and out [of trouble]," Selden said.

Red Bank Catholic took the lead in the bottom of the third inning. Iacobellis, who stole second after a leadoff walk, scored when junior shortstop Al Molina poked a line drive into center field, to put the Casey's on the board first.

Rumson junior pitcher Chris Drummond lasted four

innings for the Bulldogs. He allowed five runs on seven hits with one strikeout, two walks, and one hit batsmen. Senior pitcher Gunnar Tilly pitched two perfect innings in relief of Drummond and added three strikeouts.

Senior pitcher Tom Curry pitched a 1-2-3 seventh inning for Red Bank Catholic and punched two strikeouts, as well.

Drummond and Selden battled through the first two innings through a scoreless game before the Casey's were able to put some offense on the board.

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