

Cadets outlast Vianney

By Joe Lyons

POST-DISPATCH

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After scoring the game-winning goal in the second overtime against Vianney, CBC's Justin Bilyeu (left) celebrates with teammates Sean Kuster (8) and Sam Carenza Saturday at the A-B Center. (Paul Kopsky/STLtoday Prep Sports)

FENTON — The much-anticipated Class 3 soccer showdown between CBC and Vianney on Saturday at Anheuser-Busch Center more than lived up to expectations.

CBC won 2-1 in double overtime, getting a goal from sophomore Justin Bilyeu with just under 5½ minutes to play in the second 15-minute overtime period.

"I think this is the game people came to see," CBC

coach Terry Michler said. "We had a great day, a big crowd and a big-time atmosphere. It was a great game. It was end-to-end most of the way and full credit to Vianney. They came ready to play and this game could've just as easily ended up going the other way."

The game-winning goal came after some nice work in the corner by CBC's Kyle Malle resulted in a pass to fellow senior Austin Tierney, who beat his man to the end line before delivering a goal-mouth pass to Bilyeu for the winner.

"Coach is always talking about staying wide and making that back-post run," Bilyeu said of his fourth goal of the season. "I could see the play coming together. Austin worked his butt off to make the play and I was in the right place to put the ball away."

"It's awesome."

Michler credited the win to his team's mind-set. "All week, we've talked about the will of a champion, about playing through everything and doing whatever it takes to win," he said. "At the end, you had two heavy-legged teams, but our guys proved they still had plenty of heart."

Vianney (19-4-3) grabbed the lead on an Adam McChesney goal with about 10:45 to play. But CBC answered with 8½ minutes left as Sam Carenza headed in a free kick from Tierney.

"I really thought we had it when we went up 1-0," said Vianney coach Dave Gavain, whose team finished 0-3-1 against CBC this fall. "We knew CBC wouldn't quit, but our guys didn't quit, either."

CBC (24-4-3) will play Hickman (14-8-2) in the 5 p.m. semifinal Friday at A-B Center. Hickman beat Kickapoo 1-0 in another Saturday match.