Clark women beat Bellevue

COLUMBIAN NEWS SERVICES

KENNEWICK — The Clark College women’s basketball team guaranteed its stay at the NWAAC Tournament an extra day as the Penguins knocked off Bellevue 58-56 in the first round on Saturday.

Chelsea McClaran led the Penguins (15-9) with 15 points and nine rebounds, and Renee Tanguy and Tasha DeLaCruz each scored 11 points.

Bellevue (19-8) led by as many as 10 points.

“They listened,” coach Nancy Boone said of her players. “They played awesome defense and played together as a team. They really want to win here.”

Clark plays in the quarterfinals against Clackamas at 6 p.m. today. A win puts Clark in an 8 p.m. semifinal on Monday. A loss moves the Penguins into a 2 p.m. consolation game on Monday.

Clark College baseball falls to Concordia

The Columbian

Lee Brand sees continuing improvement in the Clark College club baseball team, despite a 6-1 loss Wednesday to the Concordia University junior varsity at the Clark field.

The Penguins (1-4) led 1-0 after six innings before allowing a run on a seventh-inning balk. The Cavaliers tacked on four runs in the top of the ninth to secure the victory.

“We were ahead for a couple of innings, then they tied it up and went ahead,” Brand said. “They scored their game-winning run on a balk. They had runners on first and third, and our pitcher balked in the run. In the ninth, the floodgates opened a little bit. It was a pretty good game until the ninth inning, when Concordia started hitting the ball a little bit.”

Brandon Brown pitched seven innings for Clark and took the loss, allowing two runs on three hits. He had five strikeouts and allowed six walks. Concordia got to reliever Jordan Ray in the ninth before Blake Kelman retired the only batter he faced to get the Penguins out of the inning.

Ben Madison and Corey Brede each singled for Clark’s two hits.

Clark scored in the second inning when Blake Babnick and Madison worked a double steal. Babnick took first base after being hit by a pitch, then advanced to third on when an errant pickoff attempt by Concordia’s pitcher turned into a two-base error.

“Brandon Brown threw a nice game, and we played defense really well,” Brand said. “The bright spot was that we didn’t have very many strikeouts at the plate. We’re coming around and starting to hit the ball. We’re making strides. We’re getting better and improving every game.”

Clark plays this weekend at Seattle University and George Fox, before playing host to Concordia again March 10.