

Clark women run to victory at PLU Invitational

Columbian staff, news services

The Clark College women's cross country team came away with the team victory Saturday at the Pacific Lutheran Invitational in Tacoma.

The Penguins scored 33 points to top host PLU (49), and third-place St. Martin's (52). There were six full women's teams competing.

Clark's **Holly Meler**, a Columbia River grad, was third overall on the 6-kilometer course. She posted a time of 23 minutes, 10 seconds.

Kristi Houk, running unattached, was the overall winner in 22:37.

Placing third for Clark was **Briel Thoun**, a Prairie grad, in 23:20. **Tamara Kulla**, a La Center grad was eighth, and **Katarina Mueller**, a Mountain View grad, placed ninth.

In the men's race, Clark was edged out by St. Martin's 52-53 for first among seven full teams.

The top Clark runner was **Jared O'Brien**, a Vancouver Christian grad, placing seventh overall in 27:21 on the 8K course. **Nathan Perry** was 8th, followed by **Cameron Faulker** in 10th and **Nathan Richards** in 11th.

The overall winner was **Kyle Van Santen** of St. Martin's in 26:06.