

# Slow start dooms Clark in NWAACC loss to Pierce

## Raiders capitalize to stay unbeaten in conference games

*The Columbian*

The Clark College men's basketball team could not bounce back enough from a slow first half Saturday at the O'Connell Center, falling 69-63 to visiting Pierce College.

The Raiders caught their host on an off shooting afternoon and established a 31-25 lead at the half after leading by as many as 10 points.

Clark mustered a 36.7 shooting percentage from the field, and only hit five 3-pointers on 21 attempts. The Penguins fared little better at the free-throw line, where they only converted 14 of 25 attempts.

"Their defense had a lot to do with" the Penguins' shooting, Clark coach Mike Arnold said. "Give their defense credit, but on the flip side, we weren't ready to execute our offense."

JC Alexander and Bryan Martin both scored 17 points for Clark while Keith Jordan Moilanen chipped in 10, but Pierce answered by scoring 20 points off 23 Penguin turnovers.

"You can't win a basketball game with that many turnovers," Arnold said.

## Clark College

Pierce also outrebounded Clark 44-41 with Demetrick White pulling down 10 boards in the Penguins' effort.

The Raiders sit atop the NWAACC standings at 2-0, while the Penguins fell to 1-1.

Clark resumes play Wednesday at Grays Harbor.

## Women's basketball

**At Clark 80, Pierce 56** — Five players scored in double figures to propel the Penguins over winless Pierce.

Ashley Kitzman led the Penguins (2-0 NWAACC) with 12 points, while Mandy Wall and Kristina Wilson both scored 11. Kippy Powers and Anna Kitzman each added 10 points and Linh Nguyen had six of the team's 18 assists.

The Penguins shot 51.8 percent from the floor compared to their visitors' 35 percent performance. Clark also picked up 17 points from the free-throw line, missing only one freebie out of 18 tries. Clark outscored the Raiders 43-30 in the first half and led by as much as 31 points after the half.

Pierce is 0-2 in NWAACC play. The Penguins travel to Grays Harbor on Wednesday.