

Clark advances to title game of home tourney

Columbian news services

Balanced scoring and fresh legs off the bench has carried the Clark College men's basketball team to the championship game of their own tournament.

The Penguins got a big night from **Derek Thurston** with 26 points as Clark defeated Chemeketa 89-80 Sunday in the semifinals of the U.S. Army/Clark College Holiday Tournament at the O'Connell Center.

Clark (6-3) will play South Puget Sound (4-5) in the 4 p.m. title game today. South Puget Sound defeated Centralia 69-68 on a last-second shot in the first semifinal Sunday.

Against Chemeketa (4-6), the Penguins bench scored 40 points to the Storm's eight.

"The big thing is we're getting balanced scoring," Clark coach **Mike Arnold** said. "And our minutes stay balanced so we have fresh legs. It was a great effort off the bench."

Thurston, a Columbia River grad, shot 8 for 13 from the field. **Josh Manus** added 11 points, and **Zach Waldher** and **Ryan Anderson** each scored 10. **Arman Kalan** added eight points and 15 rebounds.

Chemeketa's **Danny Berger** led all scorers with 32 points. Chemeketa plays Centralia in the third-place game at 2 p.m.

Wenatchee Valley and Treasure Valley play the consolation final at noon.

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