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Gauteng Jaguars beat Stings to defend title

Fans get their money's worth in frantic match

By Sowetan Reporter

The Gauteng Jaguars lifted the Brutal Fruit Netball Premier League trophy for the second consecutive year after a 49-47 victory over the Western Cape Southern Stings at the University of Pretoria's Rembrandt Hall yesterday.

The last time these two teams met, in the first round of the tournament, the Jaguars claimed a comfortable 51-43 win.

This was the Stings' first appearance in a final, and the Jaguars' fifth. But the Western Cape side looked far from underdogs against the defending champions. The first quarter was a tight one, ending 12-9 in the Gauteng side's fayour.

The Jaguars certainly didn't look like the all-conquering outfit



Jaguars celebrate defending their Brutal Fruit Netball Premier League title in Pretoria yesterday. /SAMUEL SHIVAMBU/BACKPAGEPIX

that have cruised through the tournament unbeaten in the second quarter, however.

The final minutes were frantic ones, with the lead exchanging hands, and the scores were level with just 60 seconds to go.

The Jaguars had endured the pressure of coming from behind and held their nerve to claim the two-goal win, much to the jubilant crowd's delight.

Jaguars wing Tshina Mdau was named player of the match, while the Free State Crinums centre, Khanyisa Chawane, was named the player of the tournament.

■ North West Flames beat Free State Crinums 66-64 in the third

place playoff.

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