



SAILING SENSATION . . . Vuyolwethu Tutani is Port Elizabeth's new sailing star after winning a gold medal in a provincial championships held in the Western Cape at the weekend.
Picture: B-JAY PIERCEY

Panado, our new sailing sensation

By **SIVUYILE MANGXAMBA**

TEEN sailing star Vuyolwethu Tutani was given a hero's welcome in Port Elizabeth yesterday after winning a gold medal in the provincial championships near Cape Town at the weekend.

The proud 13-year-old Javes Gqamalana Primary School pupil told the Herald that participating in the event had been a learning experience.

Being the only black pupil from the Eastern Cape to compete in the champs, the talented sailor, who hails from Red Location and is known to his mates as Panado, said he "had made it because I'm willing to look beyond traditional sports like rugby". There were joyous scenes at his school yesterday after it was announced that he had won a gold medal.

Panado clinched gold with his teammate, Waldo Zevenster, 17, in a Mirror class yacht. Waldo recently obtained his Springbok colours.

During the event at Zeekooi Vlei, Vuyolwethu said it was only hard teamwork that had won gold for them.

Having started sailing two years ago, Vuyolwethu received training at the Swartkops Yacht Club before moving to Redhouse Yacht Club.

Vuyolwethu was inspired after witnessing a number of "white people winning trophies and medals at the Swartkops Yacht Club".

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