Keris Conlay players celebrate with the Air Asia Malaysia Rugby Championship trophy and a RM12,000 mock cheque at Universiti Putra Malaysia yesterday.

BERNAMA PIC

No stopping Keris Conlay

KERIS CONLAY won the 2017 AirAsia Malaysia Rugby Championship after they beat East Division champions Eagles Rugby Club 15-12 at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) yesterday.

It was their third championship win after having won in 2013 and 2015.

"Today's fight was really close and the Eagles brought on a great challenge plus we were down with a couple of injuries. However, we managed to defend well," said Keris Conlay coach Mohd Farid Syazwan Abu Bakar.

But it was the Eagles who were first off the block with an unconverted try by full-back Mohd Fikri Sawi seven minutes into the match.

Selangor-based Keris Conlay retaliated with two tries by flanker Peniasis Senikarakia Kakaivalu and full-back Mohd Fared Yahya.

Fly-half Mohd Fairuz Ab Rahman made it 15 for Keris Conlay just before the end of the first half through a penalty.

The second half saw Eagles attempting a comeback but they only managed one try by winger Eric Durim, which was converted by Muhd Arid Muhd.