

## CLC Facilities at Olds College Impress National Rugby Team



*Andrew Wild, Olds Albertan*

It wasn't the first time Olds College was host to a high-level delegation and it won't be the last. The National Senior Women's Rugby Team spent April 8-18 at the college as part of their world cup preparations and found the facilities to their liking.

"Olds is very, very accommodating and have done everything they possibly could, also on the financial side," said NSWV head coach Jonathon Long. "It seemed like the obvious place to come for us and I know Olds College are really pushing themselves to become a sort of central facility." The camp materialized after a tour to New Zealand for the team fell through due to budgetary concerns. However the Olds experience ended up being the next best thing for the 31 players looking to make the final squad of 26 players that will travel to England this August.

Long, who also serves as Rugby Alberta's junior rugby youth development officer, said the new indoor facility inside the Ralph Klein Centre, the college field and the residences all provided the perfect site of the team. While they did run into inclement weather, they didn't have to move things inside.

"With this new facility we were able to actually know that if the weather got really, really bad we had a place almost the size of a pitch that we could go play in," Long suggested.

For its part, Olds College was thrilled to host the women's team and hopes to do more in the future, explained communications co-ordinator Rick Overwater.

Long agrees and sees a potential return in the cards for his side.

"It's a nice facility and I think when it comes to the future we may find ourselves here again," he said.