

U-18 Rugby Sevens Friendly Match Between Iwaki and Samoa: Iwaki invited eight students from Samoa's U-18 rugby sevens team for friendly matches with Iwaki's U-18 select team and Japan Rugby Football Union's U-18 rugby sevens team. In the lead up to the matches, they were able to experience Japanese culture by visiting Kotohira Shrine and enjoying a tea ceremony with the students from Taira Commercial High School who had visited Samoa in the previous year. The Samoan students' visit also coincided with the PALM8 Summit, meaning that they could welcome the leaders of the Pacific and perform for them during the special show at Spa Resort Hawaiians. The prime minister of Samoa (in centre of photo below) also attended the friendly matches and was able to watch the young Samoan team's spectacular performance on the field.



Iwaki Hometown Public Relations Division and the PALM8 Summit Assistance Team for the photos on page 2-3.

Pacific Islands Centre (PIC), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and embassies of the Pacific Island nations for the photos on pages 4-7.

Iwaki Sports Promotion Division for the photos on the back cover.

Cover Photo: Students welcome the international leaders arriving at Spa Resort Hawaiians for the PALM8 Summit.

Photo courtesy of Iwaki Hometown Public Relations Division.

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