

ATHELSTONE



Taylor Ortlepp is in Europe representing Australia against the world's best in the under -17 world championships. Picture: TAIT SCHMAAL

Ortlepp takes on the world

Alyssa-Jane Tucker

ATHELSTONE teenager Taylor Ortlepp has travelled to Europe to compete against some of the best young basketballers in the world.

Ortlepp, 16, last month took part in the International Basketball Federation under-17 Women's World Championships.

The Year 11 Saint Ignatius

College student and Norwood Flames Basketball player is in the Sapphires Australian squad playing at Klatovy and Pilsen in the Czech Republic.

She is one of only two South Australians to make the national squad.

Ortlepp started playing basketball in her backyard when she was seven.

"My older brother played basketball so I would watch

him and play against him in the backyard," she said.

"He would always beat me but then he chose to stick with football.

"I'd like to think I could beat him now."

Ortlepp had been training for at least 14 hours a week to make sure she was ready for the championships.

"It has been a lot of work but it's all paying off," she said.

