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# 2002 Olympics

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## Leavitt calls Games a gold-medal event

The 2002 Winter Games will prove a "gold medal performance" for Utah, particularly in terms of tourism and economics, Gov. Mike Leavitt said Friday.

Leavitt called the Olympics "a grand branding event" that will give tourists and businesses "clear understanding this is a place of competence."

But he also stressed economic benefits may take time. Leavitt has hosted meetings with government, education and business representatives throughout the event, and said some have expressed interest in setting up shop in Utah.

"This is a launch, not a landing," Leavitt said.

Also Friday, Leavitt joined Wyoming Gov. Jim Geringer, and Montana Gov. Judy Martz, who is a former Olympic speed skater, to announce a scholarship for schoolteachers, or prospects in the field, enrolling in the online Western Governor's University.

The Teachers' Legacy Scholarships, worth about \$7,500 each, were awarded to 170 teachers in 10 western states; 1,000 eventually will benefit.

The scholarships are for degrees in learning technology, math, science, reading, and English as a second language, subjects most affected by a national teachers shortage.

The scholarships are issued through the Western Governors' Foundation, which is working with corporate sponsors.



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