

CWI celebrates first semester



College of Western Idaho faculty member Dave Berggren, at right, points out a few items to be placed into a time capsule to CWI Executive Vice President Victor Watson prior to the sealing ceremony on Thursday evening at the CWI campus in Nampa.

Photos by Charlie Utchfield / IPT

▼ Governor joins gathering

By Tabitha Keily

tkeily@idahopress.com

NAMPA — College of Western Idaho students and staff and Gov. Butch Otter joined together Thursday for a ceremony to mark the end of the community college's first semester and dedicate a time capsule.

The CWI History Club organized the time capsule with

the theme 'Today in the Treasure Valley.' The capsule will be opened in spring 2039.

Kelly McDaid, student chairman of the project, said organizers want to show people 30 years from now what life was like three decades in the past.

Reginald Jayne, CWI history faculty member, said the capsule will show future students what the first students were doing on campus the first semester.

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CWI by the numbers

1,200 — students enrolled for the first semester at CWI, spring 2009.

2,500 — students expected to enroll for fall 2009 semester

30 — programs of professional/technical study

13 — arts/sciences programs offered in spring 2009

119 — dollars per credit

4 — main locations to take classes: CWI main campus; Boise State University; Black Eagle Center on Overland Road in Boise and the Canyon County Center on Nampa-Caldwell Boulevard. Classes and training also offered at various other locations.

Contents of the time capsule

- Phone books
- Overhead photos of the Treasure Valley
- Maps of the Treasure Valley
- iPod
- Cell phone
- Computer motherboard
- Energy smart bulbs
- A \$1 bill with "\$1-963.8 milligrams of gold in 2009" written on it.
- An Idaho license plate
- Empty cereal boxes
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- Various other items



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the state and will have tens of thousands of students. He also thinks CWI will be renowned for community involvement and well treated students.

Gov. Butch Otter

“I do hope that if I come back 30 years from now at the tender age of 97” there will be better roads to travel on, Otter said, which spurred laughter from the crowd. “I wasn’t a good student and if it wasn’t for the idea of a community college, I wouldn’t have got-

ten a second chance”

O t t e r graduated from Boise Junior College (now



Otter said CWI shows the growth and potential of both the Treasure Valley and the state. It brings the promise of education, which he said is a great hope for families. Parents want their kids to have a better life and edu-

cation is the way to achieve that, he said.

Otter said he was one of nine children, five of whom graduated high school. He was the only sibling to continue on to college.

Now, Otter has four children, and their total education is four bachelor’s degrees, three master’s degrees and a doctorate.

He said they, and other families, will continue to hope for the best for their children.

“This institution and others like it...is what gives us that hope.”

“We hoped that someday we’d have a copier on our campus,” she said. “Someday, we’d have a computer on our campus.”
Reginald Jayne, CWI faculty

Jayne said the capsule will capture a snapshot of the Treasure Valley for future students to see.

He said CWI students were surveyed on their predictions for the size of CWI in 30 years; the average prediction was 25,000. They also predicted the Treasure Valley would double in size, he said. is the students she taught who had recently returned from war, then Vietnam and now Iraq.

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