Volcano blows; scientists say 1980 repeat unlikely

Seismic activity under Mount St. Helens dropped significantly after the volcano erupted three times in 24 hours, but minor it's hard to tell. emissions of steam and ash continued Tuesday and scientists were unsure what to expect

The volcano blasted a plume to about 14,000 feet at 4:07 a.m. Tuesday, but scientists didn't know whether the emission contained any ash because of heavy cloud cover.

"We had a sizable event," said A.B. Adams of the University of pecting to see something since

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Washington Geophysics Depart- the seismic activity has been so but the explosiveness would not There's lots of rain high during the day." around the mountain. It's possi-

Seismically it was about as big as another minor eruption Monday evening, he said. "We're sort of in limbo at the

UW, when seismic activity dropped off Monday night.

'This does not mean that we're over with volcanic activity." Norris said. "We are still ex-

ble the plume went to 14,000 tremors, indicating movement a cap on the pressure and now feet, but unless it gets to 20,000, of lava or gas somewhere inside we have just the (lava) dome. the volcano, were recorded after the volcano blew plumes of steam and ash to 28,000 and early Monday.

> sided shortly after a third blast Monday evening, he said.

'This activity is very different crater. from what we've seen in the past so we have no clear guidelines," Norris said. "It is still possible has dropped off.

could be likened to the decline in seismic activity before the cataclysmic May 18, 1980, eruption doesn't necessarily involve any that killed or buried 60 people. But he said there were enough magma)," he added. for a repeat performance.

lar amounts of ash as in 1980, 13,000 feet above the crater.

Norris said intense harmonic had the entire summit providing

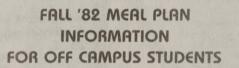
Steve Malone, director of the UW Geophysics Department, discounted the potential for 32,000 feet Sunday night and another explosive eruption. He said it was much more likely the As small steam emissions con-volcano would produce a mild moment," said Bob Norris, As small steam emissions con-volcano would produce a mild another volcano watcher at the tinued, the strong tremors sub-event in which hardened magma would be added to the 680foot lava dome in the volcano's

These seismic bursts of activity and harmonic tremors seem to be very shallow, just right in we'll see some explosive activity the throat of the volcano, right even though the seismic activity in the area around the dome, and we assume largely produced He said the mountain's status by the recent gases, mostly wa-

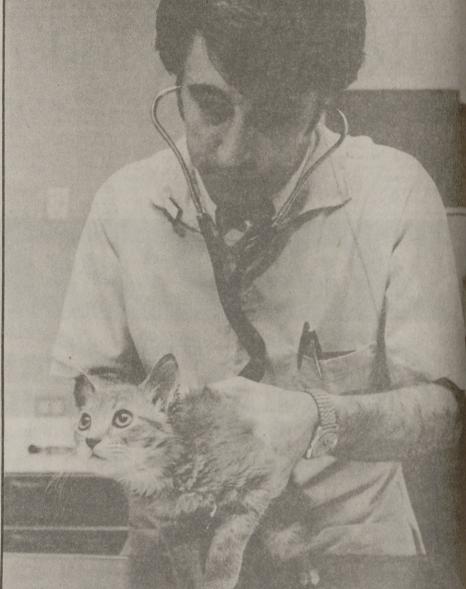
deep-seated, new source (of

differences to dispel any concerns the volcano was preparing

The eruption at 5:20 p.m.
PST Monday was described as a "small gas emission" that sent up It's still possible that we a cloud of steam with a small could get a vertical eruption of amount of ash to an elevation of the same magnitude, with simi- about 23,000 feet - about



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Chinook, 4-month-old patient of Dr. Greg Troy, tries to move away from the stethescope as Troy checks the heartbeat. Wren Marsh,

Chinook's owner, brought the cat in for treatment of ear mites. Trop said ear mites are bugs that make cats scratch their ears.

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Baseball

The 1.25-million-mile

cial ball could be used for ceremonial first pitch at Me day's National League open where the Chicago Cubs beam Cincinnati Reds, 3-2. m

Trevino handed the ball astronaut Richard Truly made a second ceremonial to the catcher

ball Hall of Fame, despite ske ticism about the ball being a ried aboard the shuttle.

"It flew," Truly said. "It on board. I can promise you

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