

## IN BRIEF

### Lincoln City deemed a tsunami-ready town

PORTLAND - The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration has declared Lincoln City the first Oregon community prepared for a potential tsunami since disaster struck southeast Asia last December.

The government launched a program four years ago calledT-sunamiReady to help U.S. coastal cities prepare evacuation plans should an undersea earthquake trigger a massive tsunami.

Readiness includes a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center with multiple ways to alert the

public to a tsunami threat. Lincoln City boosts the list of TsunamiReady communities to 16 along the West Coast, Hawaii and Alaska.

## Large plume billows from Mount St. Helens

MOUNT ST. HELENS, Wash. -Mount St. Helens released a towering plume of ash on Tuesday, marking the most spectacular eruption in months.

Late afternoon television footage showed the plume billowing thousands of feet into the air, then drifting slowly to the northeast.

The National Weather Service issued an ashfall advisory after pilots reported spotting ash higher than 30,000 feet, National Weather Service meterologist Danny Mercer said.

The explosion happened around 5:25 p.m., about an hour after a 2.0 magnitude quake rumbled on the east side of the mountain, said Bill Steele, coordinator of the Pacific Northwest Seismograph Network at the University of Washington.

-The Associated Press

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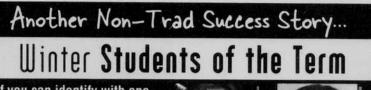
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From left to right: Stephanie McLaughlin is a 29 y/o returning sudent and Air Force veteran, she is passionate about her Italian major and her two adorable daughters, aged 2 and 4. David Watson is majoring in Environmental Science to have the knowledge to help overthrow the current system of government and help establish a new more environmentally friendly state.

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