

# leavin' on a jet plane

By CAROLINE PETRICH  
Of the Emerald

When I left for Seattle-Tacoma airport at 6:30 p.m., the flakes started falling. I wondered if Eugene was receiving a similar calling card.

I'll be there within an hour, I thought naively.

Hah! I didn't roll in to Eugene until 2:30 a.m., eight hours later. It wasn't snowing either.

This was after investing \$83 in a plane ticket to avoid a long trip.

The passengers on flight number 875 were supposed to board the DC-10 at 7:30 p.m., take off at 7:45 p.m. and fly in to Mahlon Sweet Airport at 8:37 p.m. We didn't get near the mechanical bird until 8:30 p.m.

After stashing my backpack under the seat, I guessed our landing time would be 9:37 p.m. Then I glanced out the window. From the looks of it, about two inches of snow had accumulated on the plane's wings and it wasn't melting. The stewardess looked concerned.

An hour later, the captain politely asked us to de-board for a "few minutes" while workers installed a new, and — I hoped — reliable de-icing machine for the wings.

We politely left the plane. Only a few mumbled under their breaths. The others were too tired from traveling all day. One woman had spent all day traveling from Calgary, Alberta to Spokane and then to Seattle-Tacoma. Not surprisingly, she had little patience left.

At 10:45 p.m., the television screen that displays all the information for incoming and outgoing flights gave us some very sobering info. Our flight had been cancelled!

As luck would have it, the new de-icing machine didn't work. That meant a flight to Portland (\$61) and then a bus ride to Eugene. Such luck sucks.

We marched on to an Oregon-bound plane

full of disgruntled travelers. This plane had been grounded for the past two hours. One self-proclaimed hillbilly from Ohio wryly noted that the wait was four times longer than the 24-minute flight to Portland.

By this time I needed a drink, scotch and soda please, and make that complimentary. A new stewardess said no.

My flight delay was mechanical and the airline's fault. That warranted free booze. However, this plane's delay, caused by the still falling snow, was the weather's fault; the airline therefore would not pay for mother nature's mistakes.

The plane finally took off and cruised over Portland before we knew it. As the plane neared the runway, the gloomy mood that pervaded the atmosphere dissipated. Passengers began to relax; some people were finally getting home.

When the plane bounced with a heavy thump onto the runway, all conversation stopped. For one second, people wondered if they would get home. Why, oh why, did this seem like AIRPORT '82?

"Welcome to Portland," announced the stewardess, her voice betraying a false optimism. Everyone belted out a laugh of relief. Welcome to Portland indeed!

12:30 a.m. the Evergreen bus departed from the Portland airport with forlorn travelers who nostalgically intoned, "There's no place like home, there's no place like home..."

My venture seems like a Sunday drive compared to the terror-ridden drive my friend Marian took over the Siskiyou pass. She tackled treacherous I-5 during the worst of Sunday's weather. After a 15 hour roadtrip that usually demands only nine hours, a few gray hairs decorate her brown locks. She had one consolation. At the Oregon-California border, she viciously threw snowballs at the "Welcome to Oregon" sign.

Oh, Oregon my Oregon...

## Calendar

January 7 to January 13

### FILMS

On Campus:

"The Four Seasons" Friday at 7 and 9:15 p.m. 180 PLC. Adults \$1.50, children 75 cents.

"Love and Death" Friday at 7 and 9 p.m. 177 Lawrence. Adults \$1.50, children \$1.

"Kentucky Fried Movie" Saturday, Jan. 9 at 7, 9 and 11 p.m. 138 Gilbert. \$1.75.

"Winnie The Pooh" Saturday, Jan. 9 at 4 and 7 p.m. 177 Lawrence. Adults \$1.50, children \$1.

"Norma Rae" Saturday, Jan. 9 at 7 and 9 p.m. 180 PLC. Adults \$1.50, children 75 cents.

Bijou Theatre:

Fellini's "8½" and "Amarcord" Jan. 7 - 13 at 7:15 and 9:35 p.m. Students \$2.50 Sun. - Thurs., general admission \$3, children \$1.50. Membership discount available.

"I Love You, Alice B. Toklas" Jan. 7 - 9 at midnight, Sunday at 1 p.m. Prices vary.

"Allegro Non Troppo" Jan. 13 at midnight. 96 cents. Cinema 7:

"Bye Bye Brazil" tonight at 7:30 and 9:45. \$3.

"Cutter's Way" Jan. 8 - 14 at 7:30 and 9:45 p.m. \$3.

### THEATRE

"Glass Menagerie" Oregon Repertory Theatre, opens Jan. 10 at 8 p.m.

### MUSIC

On Campus:

Musical Smorgasbord: Gwen Ingram (trumpet) and Lloyd Commander (clarinet) today at 12:30 p.m. in Beall Hall. Free.

Diana Jackson (soprano)

recital Friday at 8 p.m. in 198 Music. Free.

Faculty Artist Series: Neil Wilson (bass-baritone) Sunday at 8 p.m. in Beall Hall. Students free, general public \$2.

Helen Hoff (bassoon) Monday, Jan. 11 at 8 p.m. in Beall Hall. Free.

The New York Chamber Soloists Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 8 p.m. in Beall Hall. Tickets are \$4, \$6 and \$8.

B.J. Kelly's:

Confidential, tonight. Cover. Billy Rancher, Jan. 8 & 9. Cover.

Sneakers, Jan. 10. Cover.

Party Kings, Jan. 11. Cover

Stereotypes, Jan. 12. Cover.

Old Taylor's:

The Xplorers, Jan. 7 - 10.

Cover.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Saturday Night Square Dance with Percy Hilo and music by Judy Scher and friends. Jan. 9 at 8 p.m. in the EMU Ballroom. Students \$1.50, general public \$2.

Lightscaapes, a collection of holograms, is held over in the Centre Court building through Jan. 10. Adults \$1, children 50 cents.

### CONTINUING

University Museum of Art: "Danzig 1939: Treasures of a Destroyed Community" opens Jan. 13. Photography at Oregon Gallery: Ted Orland, black and white photographs.

Aperture Gallery: Mike Walsh. Shows through Jan. 20.

LCC: Dan Dykes, sculpture. Shows through Jan. 27.

"Latin America: Women as Artists and Artisans" at the Eugene Council for Human Rights in Latin America, Jan. 13-27.

Compiled by Matt Meyer  
Campus Information:  
686-INFO, ask for tape 651

## TODAY!

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