

Situation comedy is a little gory, but good

By Steve Williams
Staff Writer

"Silver Streak" is essentially a gigantic situation comedy taking place on and off a speeding train bound from Los Angeles to Chicago. Most of the humor evolves from the ridiculous situations in which Gene Wilder finds himself, and the various stereotypes scattered throughout.

Wilder is cast as a small time publisher on his first train ride who wastes no time making a fool of himself by stumbling into a neighboring compartment containing a very incompletely dressed young woman - thus the fun begins.

That night, Wilder and the previously mentioned young lady are interrupted by a rather dead body falling in front of the window - the lady's boss. Wilder then begins his investigation (very privately) which results in his ejection from the train a total of three times, several killings (one with a spear gun), and a mad chase across the country involving a literal army of federal and state police.

This hilarious madness climaxes with a runaway train that simply demolishes the Chicago train station.

While off the train Wilder's attempts to reboard take him through such experiences as flying a two seat air

plane, milking a cow, stealing three cars - one of them belonging to a typically stupid sherrif, breaking a police road block to avoid being arrested on charges of murder, and Wilder was even forced to disguise himself as being black to get by the police.

"Silver Streak" is a superb comedy commanding a great variety of ways to make people laugh. One of the most effective methods was the element of surprise used in unsurpassing excellence in many situations.

"Silver Streak" is for those who like to laugh and have a good time as long as they can handle a few gory details.

calendar

thursday

Focus on Women. "Women in the Middle Years" lecture by Betty Bradlyn. CC-117. 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. \$1.

ASG Meeting. Fireside Lounge. 11 a.m.

The New Theatre workshop. M-119. 2 p.m.

The New Theatre performance. CC Mall. 8 p.m. Free.

Banshee. Doc Holiday's Pub, 1320 Main, Oregon City. 9 p.m. No cover. Also Friday and Saturday.

"Johnny, We Hardly Knew Ye." KGW TV, Channel 8. 9 p.m. A historical look at John F. Kennedy's first run for public office in 1946.

Country Joe. Paramount Northwest, Portland. \$6 advance.

"I'll Die if I Can't Live Forever." Portland Civic Theatre Blue Room. 8:30 p.m. \$4 adults, \$3 students/senior citizens. 226-3048 for reservations. Also Friday and Saturday.

friday

"Spoon River Anthology." CCRT Performance. 8:30 p.m. McLoughlin Theatre. Also Saturday evening.

Tumbleweed Connection. Sampan Room, 517 Main, Oregon City. Also Saturday.

Mr. Personality. Arrowhead Golf Club. Hwy, 213 on the Molalla River. Also Saturday. 9 p.m.

Red and Dixie Butcher with Mainstreet. Whitehorse Lounge, Main Street, Molalla. 9:15 p.m. No cover.

weekend

Raintree. CCC Dance. 8 p.m. Saturday. Sponsored by NORML. CC Mall. Free for CCC students, \$1 general.

Marbelized scarves for wearing and hanging art exhibit. By Peggy Ty-craft. Hoffman Gallery, School of the Arts and Crafts Society, 616 N.W. 18th, Portland. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Oregon String Sinfonietta, directed by Eugene Kaza. 3 p.m. Sunday. Holladay Park Church of God, 2120 N.E. Tillamook, Portland, Free.

monday

"The Other Side of the Mountain." ASG sponsored movie. Fireside Lounge. 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

tuesday

Mini Concert. CC Mall. Noon.

Community Services Workshop. CC 101. 7 to 9 p.m.

Christopher Parkening, guitarist. Civic Auditorium. 8:15 p.m. \$6, \$5 and \$4.

Foghat with Rick Darenger and Sammy Hagger. Memorial Coliseum. \$6.50.

wednesday

Coffeehouse featuring the Bovay Brothers, acrobatics. Noon. Free.

Jazz Ensemble and Swing Choir concert. CC Mall. 8 p.m.

Creative Bread Making for Men. Homemaker's Update. CC-101. 6 p.m.

Kinetic Wood Sculpture showing by Jim Fink. Hoffman Gallery, N.W. 18th and Hoyt, Portland. 5 to 8 p.m.

