

**By Carolyn Lee**

***The Imperial Republican***

For over a year Jody and Deb Bopp of Imperial planned for a vacation to The Netherlands that coincided with the tulip season.

Well, they got to see the tulips, but the eruption of the volcano in Iceland has delayed their departure from tulip land.

Son David Bopp of Imperial said Tuesday that he had just gotten off the phone with his parents, who are waiting for a flight from Amsterdam to Heathrow Airport in London, and then on to Denver.

Flights out of Heathrow and most major European Union cities have been cancelled for six days as of Tuesday because of the heavy ash floating from the volcano Eyjafjallajookull over the continent and beyond.

On Tuesday, ash was reported across the ocean and in Canada. Flights from U.S. cities to Europe have also been cancelled, leaving stranded visitors at many major airports.

David said the Bopps told him it could be Saturday before they get a flight home from what was to have been a nine-day trip.

They were supposed to have returned to Imperial last Sunday.

The couple was paying 170 Euros, or \$300 a night for the hotel they were booked into on their package plan. The hotel had raised the prices on them, so the Bopps found a hotel for \$88 per night on Tuesday.

"I'm just glad they got over and saw everything they wanted to see," David said. He added that besides tulips, his parents toured medieval castles and working windmills that ground grain.

They've now gained some extra sightseeing in Amsterdam, but "They've had fun and are ready to come home," he concluded.