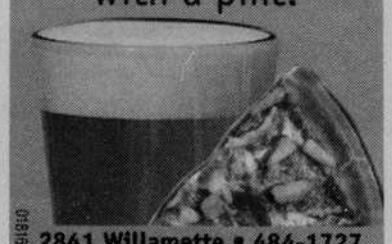
MULLIGAN'S PUB
Saturdays
Free slice of pizza with a pint!

2841 Willamette • 484-1727

Advertise in the ODE classifieds.
Call 346-4343
or place your ad online at
www.dailyemerald.com

'Filing' might make you pee your pants

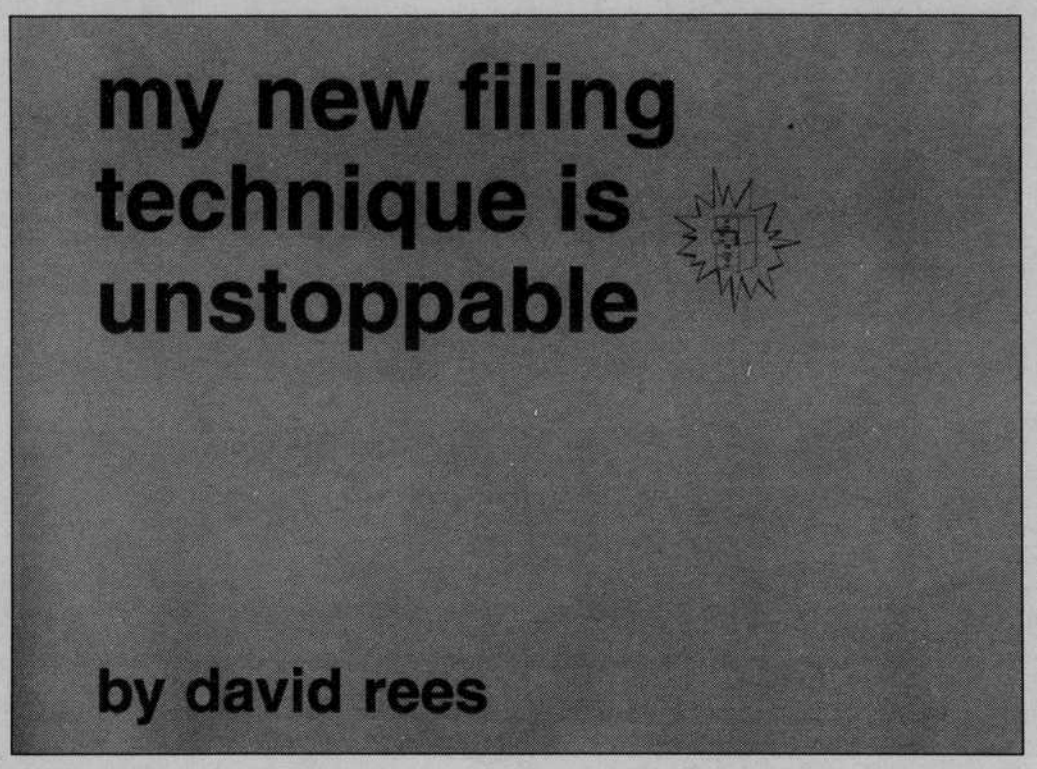
David Rees' 'My New Filing Technique is Unstoppable' is a hilarious book that may endanger readers' health

By Carl Sundberg
Pulse Columnist

From the first page, I was laughing out loud. Halfway through the book, I fell backwards and hit my head laughing so hard. By the time I finished the book, I think I wet myself and almost had a stroke.

The dangerously hysterical book I was reading is "My New Filing Technique is Unstoppable" by David Rees.

Rees' book is a collection of comics made up of clip art and simplistic, almost pathetic graphics of generic office workers dealing with the mundane tasks of mandatory team-spirit meetings, motto makers, quarterly estimate reports and ultimately, filing techniques. The characters in "Filing Technique" curse profusely, backstab, drink, cheat and sometimes even turn invisible to make their way through the day. If readers have worked in any office setting at all, they will relate to the absurdity of "Filing Technique."



David Rees' "My New Filing Technique is Unstoppable" has comics made from clip art that are full of profanity and odd takes on working in offices. The book is available through the author's Web site. **Courtesy**

Even if you haven't, this book is one of the funniest you'll probably ever read.

The book has no laugh cues, no punchlines, no set-ups — it just rolls. You determine what's funny and when you should laugh. And quite honestly, it's nearly impossible to go an entire page without spraying tea through your nose. (So, clearly, avoid tea while reading this book.)

What makes this collection so hilarious is partially the well-placed obscenity sprinkled throughout the book. But what really gets the reader is the unpredictable nature of the cursing. It would spoil the fun to describe these surprising moments too much, but I will say that one strip, in which a character goes into "triangle body mode," is what made me wet myself.

"Filing Technique" is written with a sarcasm that, like the title of the book, is unstoppable. It is raw, unforgiving and ferocious. It is guerrilla "Dilbert" and "Office Space" squared. It is a judo chop to the neck of large corporate business. It is a pirate flag for cubicle workers across the globe.

And ultimately, it is a hysterical commentary on what America has become: a miserable and soulsucking journey to thicken the bottom line. It is a dark truth brought into the light in a way that makes this reality almost tolerable. "Filing Technique" is the court jester mocking the king.

The author, David Rees, has made a name of himself with his cult-hit clip-art comics, starting with "Get Your War On," which now appears in every issue of Rolling Stone magazine. The original "Get Your War On" became a national bestseller, and all royalties made from this comic are donated to the Adopt-a-Minefield charity, which is a program of the United Nations that raises money to clear mines worldwide, helping landmine survivors and raising awareness of the landmine problem.

Rees' original version of "Filing Technique" was self-published with the help of a stapler and copy machine. The current version, available through Penguin publishers and Rees' Web site, http://www.mnftiu.cc, was completely rewritten and full of new material.

Hailing from Brooklyn, N.Y., Rees also plays in the band the Skeleton Killers and works occasional temp jobs.

Contact the Pulse columnist at carlsundberg@dailyemerald.com.

25 years
1978-2003
GLENWOOD
"The best eats in town."
Sports Illustrated on Campus
2588 Willamette St. 541-687-8201 • 1340 Alder Street 541-687-0355

Student Groups
Advertise in the Oregon Daily Emerald.
Call 346-3712 to speak with a sales rep.
We have great University rates.

Von Bondies reek of better past acts

'Pawn Shoppe Heart' has little going for it besides a few listenable songs and some decent musicianship

By Helen Schumacher
Pulse Columnist

CD REVIEW

In an attempt to be the next hot thing from Detroit, The Von Bondies have released "Pawn Shoppe Heart." And although the band has little in common with the city's most infamous musician, Eminem, The Von Bondies are closely linked to another Detroit group, The White Stripes.

Jack White helped produce the band's first album, "Lack of Communication," and last December, White attacked Von Bondies frontman Jason Stollsteimer. The incident resulted in White pleading guilty to assault and battery charges.

The Von Bondies also have a similar rock 'n' roll sound to The White Stripes, without the bluesy inspiration. "Pawn Shoppe Heart" reeks of T. Rex and Radio Birdman, which leaves it sounding like a less charming relative of The Strokes. The album, which is the band's first major label release, sounds like The

Turn to **VON BONDIES**, page 10

Multicultural Freedom Seder
Join us for this event to connect and educate the campus community by recognizing the ways in which we are all working to overcome oppression.
ALL CAMPUS COMMUNITY MEMBERS WELCOME
FREE ADMISSION, DINNER WILL BE SERVED
RSVP: bridges1@gladstone.uoregon.edu
April 12, 2004
6pm Gerlinger Lounge
Sponsored by:
The Student Initiatives Committee of Hillel:
The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life Encouragement Grants, Oregon Hillel, LGBT Education Support Services Program, LGBTQA, Jewish Student Union, Multicultural Center

LUNA
LUNA open Tuesday through Saturday at 4 pm
30th East Broadway (541) 434-LUNA
Event info and more at www.lunajazz.com
DANNY BARNES JON NEUFELD
THURSDAY APRIL 8
FAMOUS GUITAR DUO 8 PM
GARY BECK TRIO
FRIDAY APRIL 9
JAZZ/BLUES GUITAR 9 PM
SUN BOSSA
SATURDAY APRIL 10
ROMANTIC BOSSA NOVA 8:30 PM
LIFE AFTER LIFTOFF
SATURDAY APRIL 10
INDIE FUNK MIDNIGHT 12 AM
DAVID FRIESEN QUINTET
FRIDAY APRIL 16
JAZZ 8:30 PM
ELEVEN EYES
SATURDAY APRIL 17
JAZZ FUSION DANCE GROOVES 10 PM
Adam's PLACE
Next to Adam's Place Restaurant 434-LUNA
Dinning Room open 5 pm to 9 pm weeknights 10 pm weekends