



Games people play are changing

"Prooey, Prooey...!" I felt someone grab at my arm.

"Prooey," I replied, giggling.

"Prooey, Prooey..." We both began chattering once again, blindly stumbling about in search of the quiet line of people who were called "Prooey."

Once again I began "Prooey?" No reply. Aha. I had found the prue. Eyes still closed, I began to search for the end of the line. Touching first one shoulder, then the next, I determinedly worked my way to the end of the long and silent chain of people. I had been added to the prue, although I still wasn't sure what the word meant.

When I finally reached the end of the line, I was allowed to open my eyes and amusedly watch the remaining 13 players blindly try to find our long and quiet line.

Prooey was one of the "New Games" played at Lamb Cottage in Skinner's Butte Park last Sunday.

New Games offers an addition and a new direction to traditional sports. It was started in San

Francisco in 1972 and trainers from the Bay Area have been spreading the game northward.

The active participants of the Eugene group gather once a month. There is no equipment required, but often frisbees and balls arrive on the scene.

Referee training took place here in September, and the leaders conduct the activities. The group works in cooperation with the Eugene Parks and Recreation Department.

By re-examining the basic ideas of competition and cooperation, participation, creativity and personal expression are encouraged.

Although there were only 40 to 50 participants Sunday, it isn't uncommon for some of the more popular gatherings in California to attract hundreds of people.

Anyone interested in spending a few Sunday afternoon hours playing around in the mud can call 689-6678.

Red-rover, red-rover may belong to days of old, but it seems New Games are here to stay.



A new approach to outdoor fun is the idea behind "New Games," an organization growing north from California. "Prooey" (center photos) and "People Pass" (bottom photo) are invented games that leaders say encourage "participation, creativity and personal expression."

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