

Kickball: Most players hear about the league through word of mouth

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NWAACK is Bender, a gruff Eugeniean who joined the league in the same manner as most of his teammates, hearing about it from a guy who knows a guy that plays. Newcomers are common, and on this particular Saturday, first-timers outnumber veterans three to one.

Another veteran player named Slack went over the enlistment requirements with me.

"Everyone is welcome to play with us," Slack said. "We're just here to have fun and not get fat."

Slack, a tattoo-clad senior at the University, is one of the few players

who can recall how the league was formed last November, but like many, he has little idea who started it. He pointed out some of the older guys and girls playing, then threw me a ball.

"You can't get the story on us without playing," said Slack.

After watching the first game, I was eager to play. I earned a clean-up spot playing for the Whores, my team's name, and had a typical day for a rookie, managing two hits out of seven plate appearances with one run kicked in. My nickname cleverly enough was Clark Kent but I was no superman in the field; I did manage,

however, to bowl one scoreless inning of relief in the eighth.

The other team, the Sluts, was too much for us. The team was led by Ten Pin on the mound, who went the distance earning a 6-3 decision. You could say their batters had much bigger feet than us. Their big guys, Rooster Cogburn, Chicken Chaser and Sic-Boy scored early and often.

Ten Pin plays year-round and mentioned how messy the game can get during the winter.

"We used to play at a different field until we got kicked out in December for tearing up the infield," Ten Pin

said. "We stay true to our motto here, mud, blood and beer."

The game is officiated like a friendly game of ultimate frisbee. Decisions are made by the players themselves under the honor system and all debatable calls are decided with a round of rock-paper-scissors.

The league was formed in November by Gabe Scotti and Matthew Hastings. Scotti has since moved to Hawaii, but Hastings still lives in Eugene and, as mentioned by Susan "Spiggy" Wahlberg of the NWAACK, can be found at the Indigo District any night of the week past 11 p.m.

Kickball has the potential to

become more and more popular should recreation leagues continue play. It requires minimal athletic ability and players seldom need to ice after a game, even after extra innings. NWAACK players have no foresight for the future of kickball but some are daring enough to refer to it as the new dodgeball.

The NWAACK welcomes anyone to play in or just watch a game on Saturdays. Players insist that there are no restrictions. If you are inclined to pay them a visit as a spectator, bring your tennis shoes because saying no to a game might be harder than actually playing.

Ems: Krossschell let in six runs on seven hits

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gap to one. Chase Headley, Nick Hundley and Will Venable hit consecutive singles before Drew Davidson earned a walk to score Headley. With two outs, Daryl Jones slapped a single up the middle that scored Hundley and Venable.

However, the Bears added two runs in the sixth inning to seal the victory. Eugene connected on only one hit in innings six through eight.

Ben Krossschell took the loss for the Emeralds, allowing six runs (four earned) on seven hits in five innings.

Eugene failed to record an extra-base hit, while Mike Sansoe, Headley and Hundley each had two hits.

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Chase Headley slides to third base during the Emerald's loss on Sunday. Headley had two hits in the game that brought Eugene's season record to 18-22.

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