

Sports

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Women's Professional Baseball Takes the Field At St. Johns

Girls' Baseball Clinic Starts the Festivities

BY NICHOLAS HIRSHON

On Sunday, July 7, the New York Women's Baseball Association hosted a baseball clinic for girls at St. John's University. The youngsters participated in running, fielding, and hitting drills with the players. Although some entered looking like the infamous Bill Buckner, they left as golden glovers.

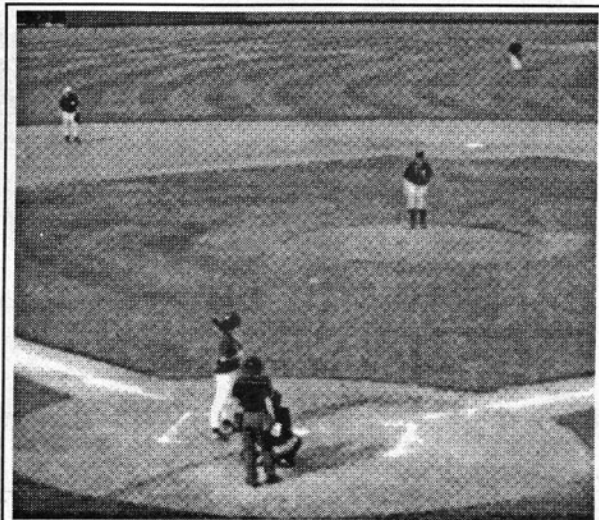
The clinic preceded a match up of the New York Woman's Baseball Association team against the Women's Baseball League All Stars, which is currently touring the country. The girls and their parents were invited to stay for the game. New York lost, 9-6 (see story).

The Women's Baseball League

prides itself in improving understanding and providing opportunities for female athletes to partake in baseball. In addition to offering women the chance to play, the League offers female umpiring positions. They also participate in numerous national conventions. "New players are always welcome", said founding director Susan Winthrop.

Assemblywoman Nettie Mayersohn (D-Flushing) threw out the first pitch, perhaps motivating adolescents to pursue a career in politics. Adam Alexander sang the national anthem.

The girls also learned a lesson from players such as the WBL's Kathy Sierzega. She was once awarded the MVP at the Philadelphia Phillies fantasy camp, placing ahead of eighty male athletes. "Now I get to follow my dream," she noted, referring to the WBL Tour. For more information about girls' clinics, call (212) 539-8800. You can also log on to www.baseballglory.com or www.nywomensbaseball.com



It was the real deal on the field.