

## ***New York Bloomer Girls to Meet Johnson City Soldiers Sunday***

Johnson City Staff-News, Wednesday August 15, 1928

### **Famous New York Nine Coming to Johnson City for Game Sunday Afternoon; Game Starts at 3.**

Fans who attend the game on next Sunday at Soldiers' Park when the well-known *New York Bloomer Girls* stack up against the Johnson City club will witness the strongest female club in action, and probably the greatest drawing card in semi-pro baseball circles today.

A feature of the day will be the appearance of a female manager; Miss **Margaret Nabel** has full control of the business management and is now in her 10<sup>th</sup> year as director of the *New York Bloomer Girls*. Miss Nabel was formerly one of the team's star players, but since assuming the management of the club has become well-known as a successful semi-pro manager and has helped to make her club the best ever known among female teams. The *New York Bloomer Girls* are run on strictly an A-1 business basis, and each player is governed by certain rules and regulations which have gone a long way toward giving this club an enviable reputation in the semi-pro ranks.

Members of the *New York Bloomer Girls* have been selected from the numerous female athletes in and around New York City, and the *Girls* have been carefully coached in the fine points of the game. It will be a revelation to fans to see how well the *Girls* run bases, how cleverly they field and throw a ball and what fine account they give of themselves at bat. The outfielders are keen judges of a fly ball, and will delight the fans with their fine all-around playing ability. **"Babe" McCuttum, Ethel Condon, Florrie O'Rourke** and **May Rohr** comprise the infield with **Helen Demarest, Jean Whalen, Mae Knapcsek, "Pep" Moran** and **Elsie Ruhnke** filling the other positions.

The team uses a strong male battery in all its games, and an interesting and well-played contest is assured.

## ***Bloomer Girls* Big Attraction Here Sunday**

### **Famous New York Nine Playing 19<sup>th</sup> Consecutive Season**

Johnson City Chronicle, Saturday August 18, 1928

Women are making rapid strides in athletics, as will be shown when the well-known and popular *New York Bloomer Girls* make their bow on Sunday against the local favorites.

In the *New York Bloomer Girls*, local baseball enthusiasts will see a highly developed aggregation, which is now in its 19<sup>th</sup> consecutive season. The team was originally organized in 1910 with the intention of playing other female teams, but it was soon evident that the *New York Bloomer Girls* easily outclassed their rivals and they soon found themselves practically alone in the field. The team had made such a splendid reputation by that time that they found themselves in demand as a novel attraction against semi-pro male clubs, in which, they gave such a good account of themselves that they have been a very powerful drawing card ever since.

In 1920 the team first started its extensive traveling, covering approximately 3,500 miles in playing 82 games touching such places as Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Baltimore, Montreal and various points in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and the other New England states. Since then the team has played a heavy schedule each year, covering over 5,000 miles per season, going to Washington, D.C., all through Delaware and Maryland and other places within a 500 mile radius of New York City. In 1927, however, all previous records for attendance and receipts and numbers of games played, were smashed in playing the 102 games scheduled by Manager **Margaret Nabel**. Over ten solid weeks were spent on the road, playing each day and adding to the splendid reputation already enjoyed by the girls, and to top this off three games were played against female clubs to decide the female championship of the East. The *Quaker City Girls* of Philadelphia were defeated 49 to 5, the *Fleisher Yarn Girls* by a 27 to 8 score, and then the *Baltimore Black Sox Girls*, colored champions of the South, were swamped by a 51 to 2 score in which Misses **Helen Demarest** and **Toots Andres** covered themselves with glory as the star battery for the *New York Bloomer Girls*. Miss Demarest had 17 strike outs, allowed only 2 hits and 2 bases on balls, while not one stolen base was chalked up against Miss Andres, who also held up her pitcher in wonderful fashion.

### **Bloomer Girls Lose to Saltville 2 to 0**

SALTVILLE, VA, August 18. The Saltville baseball team defeated the strong *New York Bloomer Girls* here today by a score of 2 to 0 in one of

the best games of the season. The New York aggregation which is composed of girl players with the exception of the pitcher and catcher, play like veterans together and gave plenty of opposition to the local team.

The New York team left immediately following the game for Johnson City, Tennessee, where they will play the *Johnson City Soldiers* on Sunday.

## **Troopers Meet New Yorkers in Banner Attraction of Season**

Johnson City Chronicle, Sunday August 19, 1928

### **Bob Edwards Scheduled to Start on Mound for Soldiers. Game to be Called at 3 O'Clock**

The *Johnson City Soldiers* will face the *New York Bloomer Girls* here this afternoon in the banner attraction of the season. The New York girls come here with one of the best records of any nine that has appeared in Johnson City in many a day. After holding the championship among the female nines of the east, the girls have stared out to conquer male teams. Already they have made history, so far as female baseball is concerned.

**Ethel Condon**, who holds down the keystone bag, is regarded as one of the best female athletes in the world. The way this seventeen year old girl plays has won for her a reputation that is coveted by all of the major league players. **John McGraw**, after seeing her in action, was high in his praise regarding her playing around the second base territory. Along with Miss Condon will be other female athletes that have made history for the *New York Bloomer Girls*.

### **Edwards to Pitch**

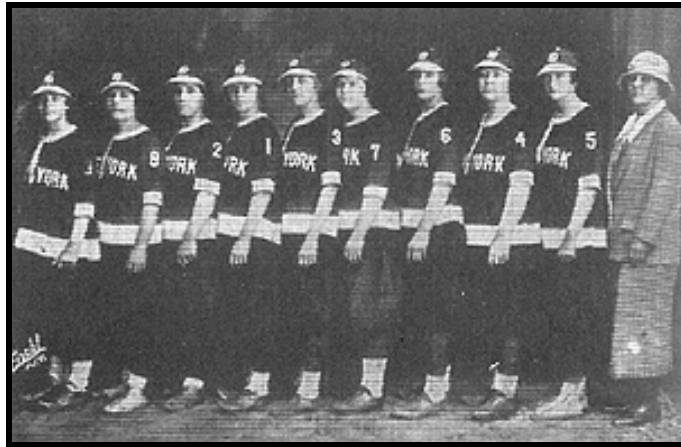
Manager **Pat Taylor** has his team groomed to meet their strongest opposition of the year. The *Soldiers* broke back into the win column last Sunday when they defeated the *Bristol Mountaineers* for the first time in five starts. Their hitting was the best of the season and air-tight fielding kept **Bob Edwards** out of danger.

"Battling Bob" is slated to the slab this afternoon against the New Yorkers. If Bob is right the visitors will have some keen opposition, but should he go wrong the local fielders will have to get on their bicycles to chase down the base hits. Should Edwards fail to stem the tide Manager

Taylor has **Opie Haws** and **Fred Wingfield** for relief duty. The game is scheduled to get under way at three o'clock at the Soldiers' Home.

### **Just a Bird's Eye View By Tobe Edwards**

All ready folks for the *Bloomer Girls* – today at the Sanitorium – probably the best drawing card **Charley Wynne** has offered this season – the crowd should rival that of the circus – **Pat Taylor** has had **Bob Edwards** primed to shoot at the “ladies.” Don't think those *Bloomer Girls* can't play ball – they have one of the best records of any team to appeared against the Soldiers – not excepting the *Greenville Spinners*. Meet you at the San at three o'clock.



*New York City Bloomer Girls*

Photo Left to Right:

9 Ethel Condon, 8 May Rohr, 2 Toots Andre, 1 Helen Demarest, 3 Mary Knapcsek,  
7 “Babe” McCutton, 6 Elsie Ruhnke, 4 Florrie O'Rourke, 5 “Pep” Moran,  
Manager Margaret Nabel

## Largest Crowd of Season Saw Game Through Drizzly Rain

Johnson City Chronicle, Monday August 20, 1928

### Girl Team Received Hearty Applause of Giant Crowd; Wingfield Hits Homer.

The famous *New York Bloomer Girls* led by the diminutive infield star **Ethel Condon** lost to the *Johnson City Soldiers* at Government Park Sunday afternoon by the score of 8 to 5 witnessed by the largest crowd of the season despite a drizzly rain throughout the afternoon.

The game was played in slightly less than an hour and thirty minutes and was featured by the work on Miss **"Babe" McCutton** at third and Miss Ethel Condon on second for the visitors. Miss McCutton relieved Pitcher White in the sixth inning and finished the game on the mound. The New York team is composed of seven girl athletes who have been playing for several years. Pitcher **White**, Backstop **Brown** and shortstop **Edwards** were the only men players on the team. Edwards' work at short was good and he turned in several sensational plays during the afternoon.

Miss McCutton is one of the best athletes on the team. She not only made several good plays at third base during the first five innings but she looked good in the hurling role. The outfield composed of **Byrns**, **Doyle** and **Phillips** made a number of nice plays in the garden and looked good on grabbing long hard high flies slammed out by the hard hitting *Soldiers*. Captain **Elsie Ruhnke** on first played her position well and is one of the mainstays of the team.

One of the main features of the game was the terrific drive of **"Ted" Wingfield** for the *Soldiers* which went deep into left field for the circuit. The ball was one of the longest hit balls seen at Government Park this season.

**"Battling Bob" Edwards** hurled the entire game for the locals and pitched his customary good game and didn't allow a hit until the seventh stanza. In this inning Edwards let up considerably and the girls collected six hits for a total of five runs and the score was tied. This attack was only short lived, however, as the *Soldiers* added three scores in the same inning for victory.

The game was of the type which pleased the large crowd, in that good, bad, indifferent, sensational as well as amusing stunts were pulled by many of the players and the stands got a big "kick" out of the unusual events of the afternoon. **Bill Dubbs**, on second base for the *Soldiers* opened his old bag of tricks not only at bat but in the field which brought continued laughter from the huge crowd.

The box score as near accurate as was possible to compile is as follows:

| N. Y. Girls              |       | AB        | R        | H         | PO        | A         | E        |
|--------------------------|-------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| McCutton 3b-p            | ..... | 5         | 1        | 2         | 0         | 5         | 1        |
| Condon 2b                | ..... | 5         | 0        | 1         | 4         | 1         | 1        |
| Edwards ss               | ..... | 4         | 0        | 1         | 5         | 3         | 1        |
| Ruhnke 1b                | ..... | 4         | 0        | 1         | 7         | 0         | 1        |
| Doyle cf                 | ..... | 3         | 0        | 1         | 3         | 0         | 0        |
| Brown c                  | ..... | 4         | 1        | 1         | 3         | 1         | 0        |
| Byrns lf                 | ..... | 3         | 1        | 0         | 1         | 0         | 0        |
| Phillips rf              | ..... | 4         | 1        | 1         | 1         | 0         | 0        |
| White p                  | ..... | 2         | 0        | 0         | 1         | 2         | 0        |
| Noble 3b                 | ..... | 1         | 1        | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0        |
| <b>Totals</b>            | ..... | <b>34</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>8</b>  | <b>24</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>4</b> |
| Soldiers                 |       | AB        | R        | H         | PO        | A         | E        |
| Brogden ss               | ..... | 4         | 1        | 2         | 3         | 2         | 0        |
| Bacon, cf-c              | ..... | 4         | 0        | 0         | 2         | 1         | 2        |
| A. Taylor, rf            | ..... | 5         | 1        | 2         | 1         | 0         | 0        |
| Wingfield 3b             | ..... | 5         | 3        | 2         | 3         | 5         | 0        |
| James lf                 | ..... | 4         | 1        | 2         | 0         | 0         | 0        |
| L. Taylor 1b             | ..... | 4         | 0        | 1         | 10        | 0         | 0        |
| Dubbs, 2b                | ..... | 4         | 1        | 1         | 3         | 3         | 0        |
| D. Taylor c              | ..... | 4         | 1        | 4         | 5         | 1         | 0        |
| Edwards p                | ..... | 4         | 0        | 1         | 0         | 1         | 0        |
| <b>Totals</b>            | ..... | <b>38</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>2</b> |
| <b>Score by innings:</b> |       |           |          |           |           |           |          |
| Soldiers                 | ..... | 111       | 020      | 30x       |           |           |          |
| Bloomer Girls            | ..... | 000       | 000      | 500       |           |           |          |

**Summary:**

Two base hits, Brogden, A. Taylor, James, Ruhnke;  
 Three base hits, A. Taylor. Home Run, Wingfield.  
 Double Plays - Edwards to Ruhnke;  
 Base on balls off Edwards 3; off White none, McCutton none.  
 Struck out by Edwards 2; White 1; McCutton 1.  
 Wild pitch White. Umpire Jackson.