



## DASSEL-COKATO SAINTS

# CAREER MILESTONES

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In a season with both highs and lows, several players on the Saints reached various career milestones. In this short write-up, we'll take a look in to these milestones, and forecast other milestones to watch for in the near future.

Starting with the offensive side of things, veteran **Mike Leffler** reached two career milestones at the plate. He knocked the first round-tripper of his Saints career and collected his 100th hit. He currently sits at 112 hits, giving him the 4th highest total for active players.

Four different Saints tallied their 50th hit with the team as well, including **Jim Althoff** (73), **Noah Halonen** (69), **Collin Krick** (60), and **Jacob Niemela** (53). While Althoff has racked up plenty of hits over his MBA career, he has averaged 24+ hits per season since his time with the Saints started in 2020. The other three hitting the 50-hit mark have an average age of about 19 and a half, which is promising for the future of the team. Both Althoff and Krick smacked their first homers with the team as well in 2022.

Two Saints lead the league in different offensive categories. **Tyler Brandel** lead the league in home runs (5) for the second time in his career, and **Jordan Flick** lead the league in triples (4).

Brandel crushed 6 total home runs on the year, putting him at 18 for his young career. He's currently 19th all-time in team history, settled between Art Hagen and Barry McKay (15) and Matt Bergstrom, Dale Grochow, and Brent Pokornowski (19). He also recorded his 150th career hit (159) and drove in his 100th career RBI (107).

Flick's 4 triples puts him at 12 total, and the new all-time leader in team history ahead of Brendon Opsahl and Craig Wessman (11). Flick also entered the top-20 in team history with 272 hits, just ahead of Eric Hanson (269) and right behind Opsahl (276).

On to pitching milestones, Halonen and Leffler both reached career strikeout milestones, 50 and 150 respectively. Halonen currently sits at 65, while Leffler has 165, good for 6th and 3rd on the active roster.

**Flick** reached three milestones on the mound as well. He moved in to 3rd all-time in team history with 925.1 innings pitched, passing Perry Thinisen (872.1) and is currently behind Joe Harmala (1294.1) and John Riewer (1379). He also became one of just 5 Saints with 60 career wins, earning his 61st, ahead of Tyler Zweibohmer (56) and behind Thinisen (73). Lastly, Flick struck out his 700th career batter (720 total), passing Dave Burns (669) and sits at 4th all-time right behind Thinisen (748).

Looking to 2023, plenty of questions arise. Will Brandel continue to climb the home run ladder and pass some all-time team greats? Will he reach 200 hits? **Ben Lindquist** is just 13 hits away from his career 100th. Can he get to that mark in May? **Steve Boger**, Althoff, and Halonen are within striking distance of 100 Saints hits, too. When do they get there? Will a late-2022 injury hinder Flick's chances to reach 1000 innings pitched? Will he get closer to Thinisen and Harmala's strikeout numbers? Will Leffler hit the 200 career strikeout mark and become the 16th pitcher to reach that milestone? One thing is for sure... You'll want to make a trip to Saints Field in 2023 to find out!

