## PINSTRIPE TIMES

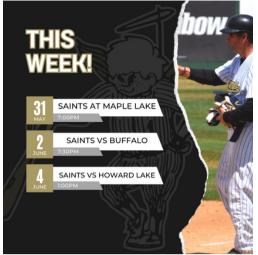
RECAP >

## SAINTS SPLIT NSL CONTESTS

The week started with a proper thumping, as the Saints couldn't seem to solve the Delano Athletics bats on Wednesday night. Jordan Flick started on the mound, but the outing would only last two innings as the Swingin' A's would score 8 runs (3 earned) in the first two frames. Michael Leffler would do his best in relief to hold the A's in check, tossing 2.1 efficient shutout innings in relief, but the effort would be too late, as the Saints would drop the week's opener by a score of 14-1.

On Friday night, the Saints would experience more of the same in a non-league contest with the scorching hot Clearwater River Cats. Coming off of a 10-run rule shortened win over last year's Sauk Valley East champion Monticello, the Cats would keep rolling, scoring 9 runs in the first inning off of Saints newcomer Jack Howard. The bullpen would attempt to piece the game together from there, but it would be too late, and the Saints would lose 15-2.

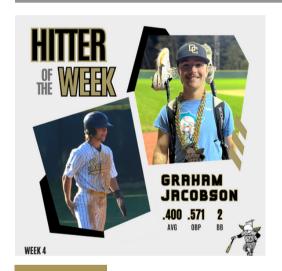
In order to split their NSL contests on the week, the Saints would need to grab a win on the shores of Brooks Lake over the Cokato Kernels. Jacob Niemela was a man on a mission, taking the ball and leading the team through 7 innings of one-run ball on the mound, striking out 11 in the process. The defense was clean behind Niemela and reliever Noah Halonen, who threw a perfect 8th and 9th inning, striking out two and earning the save. The Saints will need to build on this effort heading in to this week.

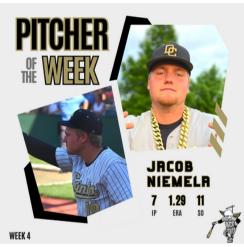


UPCOMING >

## THREE NSL GAME WEEK

As May winds down, the league schedule is starting to heat up! After a road trip to Maple Lake on Wednesday, the Saints are back at home on Friday and Sunday to take on Buffalo and Howard Lake. All three games have North Star League standings implications on the line, so the Saints will need to be on their A-game all week!





POW >

## J. NIEMELA AND G. JACOBSON NAMED WEEK 4'S TOP PERFORMERS

After scoring an abundance of runs in week 3, the Saints experienced the opposite this past week. However, there were a couple hitters that stood out. This week's Hitter of the Week honors goes to Graham Jacobson, continuing to stay hot, batting .400 with a .571 OBP. Collin Krick had a good week as well, right on GJ's heels, also batting .400. Steve Boger had a solid week, collecting a trio of hits.

Jacob Niemela's stellar outing on Sunday earns him Pitcher of the Week honors. His final line: 7 IP, 6 H, 1 ER, 11 K, 2 BB. The Saints also had some good relief performances as well; Michael Leffler pitched 2.1 scoreless innings with 3 Ks, Noah Halonen earned his first save of the season pitching two perfect innings, and Cy Flick held Clearwater's hitters in check with two scoreless innings of his own.

It'll be a week full of tough tests. The bats are going to need to pick up the pace and the pitching and defense will need to be at their best.

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