Well, if it's early January it must be time for the start of Englewood Men's Senior softball season. And sure enough, the Englewood Men's Senior Softball League kicked off it's 2023 Winter season last week following a full week of entry draft activities that saw over 50 players enter the league. I spoke with Rudy Davis from the league who told me that they were anticipating a small draft class due to hurricane Ian affects, but were pleasantly surprised by the draft class size. Bill Clark was drafted number 1 in the Gold division while Dennis Kelly was the first pick in the Silver division. Congrats to both those guys. Regular season games started last week, so let's get right to the scores.

On Tuesday the 10th in the Silver division, Caddy Carts resumed their winning ways, thumping Xpertech Auto Service 19 to 6; the Purple Panthers squeaked by the Riverwood Relics 17 to 15; in the eleven o'clock games, Artur's Restaurant topped Designer Tee's 16 to 11 while Libee's Sports Bar edged the Englewood Elks 17 to 16.

In Thursday's Silver games, Xpertech Auto Service outlasted the Purple Panthers 25 to 21 in an early season slugfest; the Englewood Elks edged Artur's 19 to 18; Designer Tee's beat Riverwood 13 to 9 while Libee's Sport Bar squeaked by Caddy Carts 16 to 15.

On Wednesday the 11th over in the Gold division, Scott's Lawns / Ken & Barbs edged The Shipwreck Pub with 2 runs in the seventh, 12 to 10; the Hitmen topped New Faull Inn 12 to 8; Key Agency thumped a shorthanded Premier Tee's / Gulf Coast Moose 27 to 10 while the Englewood Moose Lodge 1933 beat the End Zone 19 to 9.

Friday's Gold division games were postponed due to the weather and will be played on Monday, January 26 and Bronze division games, which are played on Little League field 7, are due to start tomorrow.

So, despite Friday's weather disruption, the season is off to a terrific start with several close games decided in the late innings, a sign that the strong entry draft has helped most teams, and great play in both divisions. For those of you new to the area, and you regular fans that are now back for the winter, grab your favorite morning beverage and come on out to see the action. Silver and Gold division games are played at 9:30 and 11 am Tuesday thru Friday on the Adult softball fields 1 & 2 at the Englewood Sports Complex, 1300 River Road, right down the street from the radio station.