After posting its best finish in the Southern Conference in a decade, Appalachian State University men's golf plays a challenging schedule in 2012-13, head coach Bill Dicus announced on Wednesday. The Mountaineers will compete in 12 tournaments spanning from September to April, when the squad challenges for a SoCon title at Daniel Island,

S.C.'s Ralston Creek Golf Course. App State hosts three events, including two at Mimosa Hills Country Club in Morganton, N.C. The 2012-13 campaign opens at the Raines Development Group Spring Hill Suites Intercollegiate in Florence, S.C. on Sept. 10-11. Appalachian placed 13th at the event a season ago, with Josh Nichols leading the way in 18th place. From there, Dicus' squad takes a rare trip up north on Oct. 1-2 for the Telich Sun Life Financial/CSU Invitational at Cleveland, Ohio's Canterbury Golf Course. Last season, the Apps tied for sixth out of 14 teams at the event hosted by Cleveland State. Then-sophomore Casey Komline tied for third place at the rain-shortened event.

App State then hosts the second-annual Donald Ross Intercollegiate on Oct. 15-16 at Mimosa Hills Country Club. The Mountaineers tied for fourth out of 11 teams in last season's inaugural tournament at the Donald Ross-designed course. On Oct. 19-21, Appalachian takes its lone trip of the season to Florida for the Mission Inn Intercollegiate. The event is held at the Mission Inn Resort at Howey-in-the-Hills. The Apps placed fourth at the event two years ago.

The fall portion of the slate concludes with the Apps defending their 2011 title at the Hummingbird Intercollegiate on Nov. 3-4. Last season, ASU posted a program-best round to come from behind for the win. The event is set to take place at the Country Club of Sapphire in Cashiers, N.C. Dicus' squad reconvenes for the spring on Feb. 25-26 at the Pfeiffer Intercollegiate at Kannapolis, N.C.'s Club at Irish Creek. The tournament serves as a chance for some of the Mountaineer reserves to see live action as the group eases back into competition.

The Mountaineers then look to defend their University Cup title on March 3 in Morganton. The Apps pulled out a 6-1 win against Western Carolina last year. Appalachian continues its hosting duties with the third-annual Bash at the Beach on March 10-12. The event takes place at Myrtle Beach, S.C.'s The Surf Golf and Beach Club. The Apps claimed a share of 11th place last season. The Apps leave the Carolinas one last time on March 24-26 for the C&F Bank Intercollegiate at the Kingsmill Resort in Williamsburg, Va. Appalachian claimed 10th in a field of 29 teams at the 2011 event.

App State then returns to Kannapolis for the Irish Creek Intercollegiate on April 6-7. Lance Wheeler led the way with a third-place finish at the event a season ago. The Mountaineers sent five unattached golfers but did not officially enter as a team. The final tune-up for the Southern Conference Tournament comes in Spartanburg, S.C. as the Mountaineers play in the Coca-Cola Wofford Invitational at the Country Club of Spartanburg on April 15-16. The Apps placed 13th at the 2011 event.

Led by a strong returning group of players, Dicus' squad will look to improve on last season's solid sixth-place finish at the Southern Coneference Tournament on April 21-23. Komline led Appalachian with a 14th-place finish last season and earned all-conference honors.

2012-13 ASU GOLF SCHEDULE

Mon, Sep 10 -
Tue, Sep 11 Suites Intercollegiate at Florence, S.C./Country Club of South Carolina, All Day

Mon, Oct 01 -
Tue, Oct 02 Telich Sun Life Financial/CSU Invitational at Cleveland, Ohio/Canterbury Golf Course, All Day

Mon, Oct 15 -
Tue, Oct 16 Donald Ross Intercollegiate Morganton, N.C./Mimosa Hills Country Club, All Day

Fri, Oct 19 -
Sun, Oct 21 Mission Inn Intercollegiate at Howey-in-the-Hills, Fla./Mission Inn, All Day

Sat, Nov 03 -
Sun, Nov 04 Hummingbird Intercollegiate at Cashiers, N.C./Country Club of Sapphire, All Day

Mon, Feb 25 -
Tue, Feb 26 Pfeiffer Intercollegiate at Kannapolis, N.C./Club at Irish Creek, All Day

Sun, Mar 03 University Cup Morganton, N.C./Mimosa Hills Country Club, TBA

Sun, Mar 10 -
Tue, Mar 12 Bash at the Beach Myrtle Beach, S.C./The Surf Golf Club, All Day

Sun, Mar 24 -
Tue, Mar 26 C&F Bank Intercollegiate at Williamsburg, Va./Kingsmill Resort, All Day

Sat, Apr 06 -
Sun, Apr 07 Irish Creek Intercollegiate at Kannapolis, N.C./Club at Irish Creek, All Day

Mon, Apr 15 -
Tue, Apr 16 Coca-Cola Wofford Invitational at Spartanburg, S.C./Country Club of

Spartanburg,All Day

Sun, Apr 21 -
Tue, Apr 23 Southern Conference Tournament at Charleston, S.C./Ralston Creek, All Day

* Conference Games

Photo Courtesy: Bill Dicus, ASU Athletics