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As has become the norm in recent years, changes will abound at Kidd Brewer Stadium when No. 11/8 Appalachian State University football hosts No. 12/9 Montana in Saturday's much-anticipated

2012 home opener at The Rock. The home of the Mountaineers, which turns 50 years old when Appalachian hosts The Citadel on Sept. 15, has featured major changes nearly every season since 2006 and this year is no different.

For the second-straight season, temporary bleachers are being installed in stadium's north end zone. Due to the popularity of the bleachers that stand just 10 feet from the playing field, 700 more seats are being added this season, bringing the total to 2,400 and upping Kidd Brewer Stadium's official seating capacity to 23,850. In addition to general-admission seating earmarked specifically for Appalachian State students, the north end zone bleachers will also house the Appalachian State Marching Mountaineers in 2012.

Another new fan-friendly feature at The Rock this season is the addition of four LED ribbon boards — two located on the facade of the Appalachian Athletics Center on the stadium's west side and two located on the face of the east-side upper deck. The LED boards will feature information to enhance the gameday experience throughout the game, including statistics, fan-friendly graphics and important stadium messages.

A 41st-consecutive over-capacity regular-season crowd is almost assured for Saturday's home opener (6:30 p.m. — ESPN Gameplan/ESPN3) but a very limited number of reserved seats remain for the mammoth showdown between perhaps the two most-recognizable programs in NCAA Division I FCS. Tickets can purchased online at GoASU.com, by phone at (828) 262-2079 or in person at the Appalachian State athletics ticket office, located at the Holmes Center.

For more information on Kidd Brewer Stadium, visit GoASU.com's Gameday Central page and TailgateAtTheRock.com.

Photo Courtesy: Kidd Brewer Stadium, ASU Athletics