

Mountaineers-Griz Set For Monumental Showdown

Written by Mike Flynn

Friday, 07 September 2012 23:24

Appalachian State University hosts one of the most anticipated regular-season non-conference matchups in the history of the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) when it welcomes Montana to Kidd Brewer Stadium for the 2012 home opener on Saturday night. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at The Rock.

TELEVISION

Saturday's game will be televised nationwide on ESPN GamePlan, the worldwide leader in sports' pay-per-view platform that is available on most cable and satellite systems. Check with your cable or satellite provider for availability and price. The broadcast will also be shown live on ESPN3, the network's online platform. Check with your internet service provider or visit ESPN3.com for availability.

RADIO

Saturday's game will be broadcast live on the Appalachian IMG Sports Network. Live coverage begins at 4:30 p.m. with Pigskin Prelude. The game can be heard locally on AM 1450, WATA.

NOTING SATURDAY'S MATCHUP

- Appalachian State (0-1) and Montana (1-0) are two of the FCS's most decorated programs with a combined five national championships, 10 FCS championship-game appearances and 40 FCS postseason berths.

- Since 2005, Appalachian and Montana are FCS's winningest programs with 79 and 78 victories, respectively.

- This is the first-ever regular-season meeting between the Mountaineers and Grizzlies. The teams' only previous games were a pair of epic national semifinals in 2000 and 2009, both won by the Griz in Missoula, Mont.

- Last Saturday, Appalachian jumped out to a 7-0 lead at East Carolina and trailed just 14-13 with 2:35 to go in the third quarter before Conference USA's ECU pulled away in the fourth for a 35-13 win.

- In its season opener last Saturday, Montana trailed South Dakota, 24-16, midway through the third quarter but scored three touchdowns in a 3:46 span en route to a 35-24 win over the Coyotes, who are in their first year of full Division I competition (Missouri Valley).

- Both teams had impressive yardage differentials in their season openers. Appalachian State

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held a 332-242 edge in total yards through three quarters versus ECU and finished with a 419-390 final advantage while Montana outgained South Dakota by a whopping 568-233 margin.

- Appalachian State is 60-19-2 (.753) all-time in home openers, including a 20-3 record under head coach Jerry Moore and a 10-1 mark over the last 11 years.
- The Mountaineers are opening their home slate against a nationally ranked opponent for the eighth time in the last 14 years. Appalachian is 5-2 in the last seven instances with the only losses coming at the hands of No. 2 Troy State in 1999 (34-28) and No. 16 McNeese State in 2009 (40-35).
- Appalachian is 3-2 all-time versus current members of the Big Sky Conference. The Mountaineers' only previous regular-season matchup versus a BSC squad was in 2007, when the Apps downed Northern Arizona, 34-21, at Kidd Brewer Stadium.
- The Mountaineers bring a 17-game regular-season winning streak at Kidd Brewer Stadium into tonight's game. The Apps have not lost a regular-season tilt at home since the 40-35 loss to McNeese State in the 2009 home opener.

For complete coverage of Saturday's matchup, including links to live video, audio and stats, both teams' rosters, depth charts, game notes and much more, click [HERE](#) to visit GoASU.com's official Gameday Central page.

Photo Courtesy: Graham Fisher, ASU Athletics

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