

## ASU Finalizes 2013 Football Schedule

Written by Mike Flynn

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Six home games and trips to Montana and Georgia highlight Appalachian State University football's 2013 regular-season schedule, which was finalized on

Monday. For only the second time in school history, Appalachian State will play 12 regular-season games in 2013. NCAA regulations permit all Division I programs to play 12 regular-season games in 2013 and 2014.

For the eighth-consecutive season, Appalachian will host six games at Kidd Brewer Stadium, including non-conference tilts versus North Carolina A&T (Sept. 7) and Charleston Southern (Sept. 28) and Southern Conference contests versus Samford (Oct. 12), Georgia Southern (Oct. 26), Chattanooga (Nov. 2) and Western Carolina (Nov. 23).

The marquee matchup of the home slate is the Black Saturday battle versus Georgia Southern on Oct. 26. The Mountaineers will be in search of a record-tying third-straight victory over its longtime rival after knocking Georgia Southern off its perch atop the national rankings each of the last two seasons.

Other highlights of the home schedule include the Sept. 7 home opener versus N.C. A&T, which will kick off at 6 p.m. to give the Mountaineers a regular-season game under the lights at Kidd Brewer Stadium for the fourth-straight year, Appalachian State's annual Family Weekend game versus Charleston Southern on Sept. 28 and homecoming versus Samford on Oct. 12.

Thanks to the 12-game slate in 2013, Appalachian was able to schedule two riveting non-schedule road contests — at Montana (Aug. 31) and Georgia (Nov. 9) — to go along with its traditional six home games.

The season opener at Montana is the back end of a home-and-home series between the longtime NCAA Division I FCS powerhouses that began with Appalachian State's thrilling 35-27 win over the Griz last season at The Rock. The Mountaineers are making their third trip to Missoula, Mont., having dropped nailbiters in the 2000 and 2009 national semifinals at Washington-Grizzly Stadium. Appalachian State and Montana have combined for five national championships (all since 1995), 10 FCS championship game appearances and 41 FCS playoff berths all-time.

The Nov. 9 contest at Georgia is the first all-time meeting between Appalachian State and UGA. The Bulldogs went 12-2 in 2012, winning the Southeastern Conference East Division title before dropping a heart-stopping 32-28 decision to eventual Bowl Championship Series champion Alabama in the SEC title game. UGA went on to defeat Nebraska, 45-31, in the 2013 Capital One Bowl and was ranked No. 4 in the season's final USA Today coaches' poll.

SoCon contests at Elon (Sept. 21), The Citadel (Oct. 5), Furman (Oct. 19) and Wofford (Nov. 16) round out the road slate.

Ticket information for 2013 will be announced soon.

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### 2013 APPALACHIAN STATE FOOTBALL REGULAR-SEASON SCHEDULE

**Date**   **Opponent**   **Site**   **Time**

Aug. 31 at Montana, Missoula, Mont., TBA

Sept. 7 North Carolina A&T, Boone, N.C., 6 p.m.

Sept. 21 at Elon\*, Elon, N.C., TBA

Sept. 28 Charleston Southern (Family Weekend), Boone, N.C., 3:30 p.m.

Oct. 5 at The Citadel\*, Charleston, S.C., 2 p.m.

Oct. 12 Samford\* (Homecoming), Boone, N.C., 3:30 p.m.

Oct. 19 at Furman\*, Greenville, S.C., TBA

Oct. 26 Georgia Southern\* (Black Saturday), Boone, N.C., 3:30 p.m.

Nov. 2 Chattanooga\*, Boone, N.C., 3:30 p.m.

Nov. 9 at Georgia, Athens, Ga., TBA

Nov. 16 at Wofford\*, Spartanburg, S.C., TBA

Nov. 23 Western Carolina\*, Boone, N.C., 3:30 p.m.

\*-Southern Conference games

Photo Courtesy: Jamal Jackson, ASU Athletics