Quarterback Armanti Edwards, with an NCAA record-setting 313 rushing yards, lead the Appalachian State Mountaineers to a 55-35 win over the University of Richmond Spiders Friday evening in front of over 24,000 fans at Kidd Brewer Stadium. The Mountaineers will face the Blue Hens of the University of Delaware in the title game next Friday evening in Chattanooga.

The Apps charged to a 28-7 lead early in the second quarter and 35-14 just before the halftime break, with Edwards accounting for 4 of the touchdowns on rushes. The Spiders scored with seconds left in the second period, and were pumped up as the second half began. Richmond scored two quick touchdowns to tie it up at 35; they appeared to have the momentum and control of the game.

But Edwards, cutting and slashing on a third-and-long late in the third quarter, rushed for 34 yards and a critical first down, opening the way for ASU's go-ahead touchdown on the drive.

ASU's defense, which had given up almost 300 rushing yards by mid-third quarter, began to stiffen, forcing a Richmond punt and snuffing Richmond's next possession with a diving interception by Corey Lynch. And the Apps began to mix up their offense by clicking on their passing game; ASU's final two scores came on the pass, Edwards to senior Ric Cardwell.

On to Chattanooga, for the championship game against the University of Delaware, who came from behind Saturday afternoon to beat Southern Illinois University, 20-17. This will be Delaware's second visit to the championship in the last five years..

A victory by ASU would give it a precedent-setting third consecutive championship.