

ASU To Play ECU In Charlotte

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After a 10-year hiatus in the rivalry, Appalachian State University men's basketball will host East Carolina this season in Charlotte's Time Warner Cable Arena, head coach Jason Capel announced on Monday. The squads will meet on November 22 in the home of the NBA's Bobcats.

The game is the first in a two-season home-and-home series, with the Mountaineers returning to Greenville, N.C. in November 2012. The last meeting between the in-state foes was 2001-02, when Appalachian earned a 93-87 home-opening win, though the rivalry dates back to the 1933-34 season.

The contest also marks ASU's second trip to Time Warner Cable Arena, after splitting a pair of games in the 2010 Southern Conference Tournament semifinals and championship, when Appalachian fans posted a strong showing to account for a majority of the attendance in the team's two sessions at the venue.

Despite the loss of 2,000-point scorer Donald Sims, the Apps return four starters from the 2010-11 season, in which ASU finished third in the SoCon North division and posted a 16-15 mark overall. Among the returning starters is all-SoCon performer and Charlotte native Omar Carter (Charlotte Christian School).

The Pirates completed an 18-16 campaign under first-year head coach Jeff Lebo to mark their first winning season in 14 years. The Conference USA squad advanced to the 2011 CollegenInsider.com Postseason Tournament.

Ticket information for the game will be available later in the summer. The Mountaineers will release their full 2011-12 schedule in July.