

ASU Volleyball Reveals 2013 Slate

Written by Ryan Bower
Thursday, 06 June 2013 06:11

Appalachian State University volleyball head coach Matt Ginipro announced his squad's schedule for the upcoming 2013 season on Wednesday. The Mountaineers, who played just nine matches at home last season, will play a total of 15 matches in the High Country this year. Appalachian's home slate includes two tournaments, one on the opening weekend of the season and another on the final non-conference weekend of play.

"We're excited to finally release our 2013 schedule and can't wait to get back to competition," said Ginipro. "There's no doubt that the best part of our schedule is hosting two tournaments at the beginning of the year. We were on the road so much in 2012 that we almost forgot what playing at home was like, so having seven non-conference matches at home will be a great way to start off the season."

App State kicks off its 2013 campaign when it welcomes Loyola (Md.) to the Holmes Center for a 7 p.m. match on Aug. 30. The match will be the second of the Appalachian Invitational, which features competition between the Mountaineers, Loyola (Md.), Norfolk State and Sam Houston State.

The Mountaineers will play twice on the second and final day of the tournament when they take on Sam Houston State at 12:30 p.m. and Norfolk State at 7 p.m. to close out the invitational. Appalachian hits the road for the first time when it travels to Presbyterian for a 7 p.m. contest on Sept. 3 before participating in back-to-back tournaments.

A trip to Raleigh, N.C. for a regular-season tournament at NC State is slated for Sept. 6-7 with App State's first match slated at 7 p.m. on Friday against the Wolfpack. The Mountaineers will take on Towson at 10:30 a.m. the next day before wrapping things up with Binghamton at 5 p.m.

Appalachian's third regular-season tournament will take place at Baylor from Sept. 13-14 with times and opponents yet to be determined as the Bears hunt for a fourth team for their home tournament.

App State returns home to take on North Carolina A&T at 7 p.m. on Sept. 18 before gearing up for its second home tournament of the season with the Black & Gold Challenge on Sept. 20-21. The Black & Gold Challenge will bring volleyball back to Varsity Gymnasium, as the Apps will compete against Denver, East Carolina and future Sun Belt foe UT Arlington. The Mountaineers will take on in-state rival ECU at 7 p.m. on Sept. 20 and wrap up non-conference action with a 12:30 p.m. showdown with UTA and a 7 p.m. tilt with Denver on Saturday.

Appalachian State opens its Southern Conference slate at Western Carolina on Sept. 26 at 7 p.m. The Mountaineers will look to get off on the right foot and pick up their first SoCon title since 2004 in their final year in the league.

"I'm very happy with how our schedule plays out as we prepare for our last season in the SoCon," Ginipro said. "Plus, we get a taste of Sun Belt volleyball in our match against UT-Arlington."

The Apps return home the following day to take on Davidson at 8 p.m. in a matchup between a pair of departing SoCon members.

A road trip awaits Appalachian the following weekend with trips to Chattanooga (Oct. 4) and Samford (Oct. 5). The matchup with the Lady Mocs will take place at 6 p.m. while the Mountaineers and Bulldogs square off at 8 p.m. (EST).

The Mountaineers will play the next four matches at home against conference foes as it welcomes Furman to the High Country on Oct. 11 before Wofford travels up the mountain on

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Oct. 12.

Georgia Southern, which will join the Mountaineers in the Sun Belt in 2014, comes to the Holmes Center on Oct. 18 while The Citadel will make the trek to Boone on Oct. 19.

A return trip to Davidson is on tap for Appalachian on Oct. 26 before Western Carolina makes its final trip to Boone as a conference foe on Oct. 27. The home match will be followed by road matches at Elon (Nov. 1) and UNCG (Nov. 2).

Appalachian State closes out its 2013 home schedule with matches against Samford (Nov. 8) and Chattanooga (Nov. 9) before hitting the road to close out the season at The Citadel (Nov. 15) and Georgia Southern (Nov. 16).

"The SoCon looks to be as competitive as it always is, even with the loss of College of Charleston," said Ginipro. "This Mountaineer team worked tremendously hard this spring to recover from a disappointing season and it showed during our spring competition. I know all of our players are ready to build off of that momentum this preseason and get 2013 started off right."

The 2013 Southern Conference Tournament will take place in Greenville, S.C. from Nov. 22-25 where an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament will be up for grabs.

ASU 2013 VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Fri, Aug 30 LOYOLA (MD.) BOONE, N.C. 7 p.m.
Sat, Aug 31 SAM HOUSTON STATE BOONE, N.C. 12:30 p.m.
Sat, Aug 31 NORFOLK STATE BOONE, N.C. 7 p.m.
Tue, Sep 03 Presbyterian at Clinton, S.C. 7 p.m.

NC State Tournament

Fri, Sep 06 NC State at Raleigh, N.C. 7 p.m.
Sat, Sep 07 Towson at Raleigh, N.C. 10:30 a.m.
Sat, Sep 07 Binghamton at Raleigh, N.C. 5 p.m.

Baylor Tournament

Fri, Sep 13-Sat, Sep 14 TBA at Waco, Texas TBA
Wed, Sep 18 NORTH CAROLINA A&T BOONE, N.C. 7 p.m.

Black & Gold Challenge - Varsity Gym

Fri, Sep 20 EAST CAROLINA BOONE, N.C. 7 p.m.
Sat, Sep 21 UT ARLINGTON BOONE, N.C. 12:30 p.m.
Sat, Sep 21 DENVER BOONE, N.C. 7 p.m.
Thu, Sep 26 Western Carolina * at Cullowhee, N.C. 7 p.m.
Fri, Sep 27 DAVIDSON * BOONE, N.C. 8 p.m.
Fri, Oct 04 Chattanooga * at Chattanooga, Tenn. 6 p.m.
Sat, Oct 05 Samford * at Birmingham, Ala. 8 p.m.
Fri, Oct 11 FURMAN * BOONE, N.C. 7 p.m.
Sat, Oct 12 WOFFORD * BOONE, N.C. 7:30 p.m.
Fri, Oct 18 GEORGIA SOUTHERN * BOONE, N.C. 7 p.m.
Sat, Oct 19 THE CITADEL * BOONE, N.C. 6 p.m.
Sat, Oct 26 Davidson * at Davidson, N.C. 2 p.m.
Sun, Oct 27 WESTERN CAROLINA * BOONE, N.C. 5 p.m.

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Fri, Nov 01 Elon * at Elon, N.C. 7 p.m.
Sat, Nov 02 UNCG * at Greensboro, N.C. 7 p.m.
Fri, Nov 08 SAMFORD * BOONE, N.C. 7 p.m.
Sat, Nov 09 CHATTANOOGA * BOONE, N.C. 7 p.m.
Fri, Nov 15 The Citadel * at Charleston, S.C. 6 p.m.
Sat, Nov 16 Georgia Southern * at Statesboro, Ga. 4 p.m.

Southern Conference Tournament

Fri, Nov 22-Mon, Nov 25 TBA at Greenville, S.C. TBA

* Conference Games