



Coach Jerry Claiborne had first coaching job at Augusta

Jerry Claiborne spent two years coaching football and basketball at AMA. His teams won the Virginia State basketball championship in 1950 and the state football championship the following year. Jerry also taught the eighth grade.



He left AMA to become Bear Bryant's assistant at Texas A and M and later at Alabama before taking the top job at Virginia Tech. He led the Hokies to a 69-32-2 record from 1961 to 1970 and Tech would not be successful in football again until Frank Beamer, who played for Claiborne at VT, came to Blacksburg.



Bobby Joe Moser, Coach Claiborne, Colonel W. C. Louisell and Tommy Hamilton, Fall of 1950.

From Tech, Jerry went to College Park to become the head coach at Maryland, a team that had won only nine games in five years. He coached the Terps for ten years and ended with a 77-37-3 record including an undefeated season in 1976, his teams going to six successive bowl games.

Claiborne took over as head coach of his alma mater in 1982 and after his first year at 0-10, Kentucky reached bowl games in his second and third seasons.

He was Coach of the Year in three conferences: the Southern Conference where the Hokies played in those days – the Atlantic Coast Conference three times when he coached at Maryland – and the Southeast Conference where Kentucky plays. *The Sporting News* named him national coach of the year in 1974 and Jerry Claiborne was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1999.

Claiborne always gave credit for his successes to General Roller for giving him his first coaching job.

