

Season not what was envisioned

By Mike Embery
AP Sports Writer

LEXINGTON (AP) - It didn't turn out to be the football season that Kentucky coach Jerry Claiborne envisioned for the Wildcats back in the dog days of summer.

Kentucky finished 6-5 overall and 2-5 in the Southeastern Conference after losing to eighth-ranked Tennessee 31-10 on Saturday in the last game of the season.

"We were disappointed in the season," Claiborne said at his Sunday news conference. "We felt at the beginning of the year that we would win more than six ball games. We lost to five pretty good football teams."

Every team that beat Kentucky will be going to bowls - Alabama, Tennessee and Auburn will be going to the Sugar, Cotton and Hall of Fame bowls depending on their league finish next Saturday, Georgia to the Peach and Florida to the Freedom.

"I think we would have been a much better football team if we could have gotten away from the injury bug," Claiborne said. "We weren't able to do that."

Kentucky was hit the hardest on the offensive line, which had been considered at the beginning of the season to be the team's strongest element. In the Tennessee game, only three of the players that started in the first game against Indiana were on the first unit.

Claiborne said the injuries during the season were "by far the worst" he's experienced as a coach, "especially right along that period when we were playing Auburn and Alabama and we lost about our entire offensive line."

And lack of depth in several positions hurt when some of the starters went down with injuries. "This is going to happen and you've got to expect it, but some teams are deep enough that they can overcome it," Claiborne said.

The Kentucky coach said he didn't make any predictions at the start of the season on how

many games the Wildcats would win.

"We had a chance to beat anybody on our schedule if we played well but everybody on our schedule had a chance to beat us," he said. "I don't think we were fo-

Morehead wins first two

MORRHEAD (AP) - Elbert Boyd scored 22 points to lead five Morehead State players in double figures as the Eagles beat West Virginia State 90-73 in a non-conference college basketball game Saturday night.

Morehead extended its winning streak to two, with a 94-60 win over Northeastern Illinois, 6-3, Monday night.

After a seven-game first half, the

home-standing Eagles broke away in the second half to claim the win.

"We were going to have to get some breaks and play well in order to have a winning season," Boyd said.

Players of the week as selected by the coaching staff were tight end Rodney Jackson on the offensive line; fullback Andy Murray and wide receiver Phil Logan on the offensive backfield; tackle Jerry Bell on the defensive line, and linebacker Billy Swanson and safety Ron Robinson on the defensive backfield.

Boyd, a senior forward who averaged nearly 14 points per game last season, hit 10 of 11 field goal attempts to lead Morehead State (1-0), which shot 62.7 percent from the field for the game.

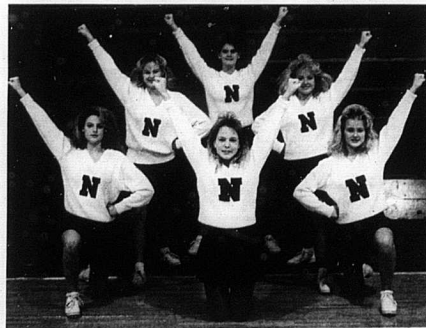
Boyd sparked an early Morehead spurt by scoring seven of the Eagles' first 16 points. Morehead led 22-10 with 12:16 left in the

first half and held double-figure leads throughout the game.

The Eagles' biggest lead was 91-55 with 5:07 left.

Other Morehead players reaching double figures were Brian Miller with 14, Patrick Roberts with 11 and Brett Roberts and Vic Gaither with 10 each.

West Virginia State, which shot just 27.5 percent from the field, was led by Omar Booth with 20 points and Robert Gooding with 11. The Yellow Jackets fell to 1-1.



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