

Locke, Ricky



The McMaster University Marauders in 1962. Locke, in the front row, is sporting the number 84. Trainer Pinky Lewis is at the right end of the third row (from the bottom).



In 1966, Locke's second year back and first year coaching Quinte's senior football team, the Saints won the COSSA championship. Locke coached with his old mentor Jack Sisson.



In 1968, Locke paired up with Canadian university football star Paul Paddon to take the senior team to another COSSA victory. Rick Meagher, with slightly longer hair, is sitting in the front row (#10). Sergeant Mike Graham is standing at the right end of the back row.

*Intelligence,
Remember when
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It was the first time a university team got to go across Canada. We played in Halifax and British Columbia...We went from one end to the other, and we lost in both ends," Locke laughs.

The Marauders were not unsuccessful in their home province. For three consecutive years, — 1961, '62 and '63 — they held the title of Ontario Intercollegiate Football Conference Champions.

Locke played cornerback under the direction of coach Al Smith, who helped design the 5BX fitness program used by the Armed Services.

At that time, one-time Tiger-Cats coach Pinky Lewis was the Marauders' trainer.

"He's a legend in Hamilton. If you mention his name to the oldtimers, they know who he was," Locke says.

One of Locke's games with the Marauders was the first university game to be televised. Host Dick Beddoes gave the play-by-play. During that game, Locke went down with an injury.

"I was hurt once on the field...Pinky came out. He said, 'Can you turn over — your face isn't the right way (for the cameras).'"

Beddoes noticed Locke laughing, and assured the crowd the injury wasn't serious.

After four years at McMaster, Locke had his geography

and physical education degree in hand — and try-out offers from the Calgary Stampeders and the Montreal Alouettes.

But, teaching was his lifelong ambition. He and his bride, Joanne, came to Belleville.

"I wanted to teach at Quinte and I wanted to coach with Jack Sisson and I thought Max Wooley would be here," Locke says.

Locke started playing football as a student at Quinte in Grade 10.

"Jack Sisson talked me into playing," he recalls. "Max Wooley was my basketball coach here and he helped Jack with football."

When Locke started teaching at his old high school, Wooley had retired. He did get to coach with Sisson, though.

"Wherever I've been I've always had coaches and teachers who were proud of where they taught or worked. I think that's they key," Locke says.

Pride may be the key — but it's not the only one.

"Wives are important in the whole situation. The amount of time coaches spend away, the wife is the one that really gives you the support when you need it," Locke says. He and Joanne have two children, Steven and Susan.

Locke also has fond memories of playing on the Belleville Kenmores, and of coaching the Belleville Taggers to an Ontario championship in 1979.