



Assät Hockey Club

“Canadian beats out top NHL Defenseman”

Heshka honoured by the Finnish Elite Hockey League

May 27, 2013 - For former Manitoba Moose defenseman Shaun Heshka, winning the Kanada Cup championship finals in the Finnish Elite League this year just wasn't enough. Originally from Melville Saskatchewan, Heshka has just been awarded the Pekka Rautakallio trophy for the best defenseman in the league, beating out Erik Karlsson, the NHL's top defense player in 2012. "I am very honoured to win this award, and would like to thank my teammates for an amazing season." said Heshka, who also managed to pull off the best plus/minus record in the playoffs.

"It feels great to be recognized, and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our fans for their phenomenal support." For Heshka championship seasons are starting to pile up, having recently helped EC Salzburg to their finals win in the Austrian Elite League.

Heshka, who played for the Moose over two seasons, including their 2008-2009 Calder Cup final season, had a 31 point season with the Assat hockey club this year, and was recognized for the 8 points he racked up during the playoffs. Notably, he also managed an assist during the championship game.

"As a player, he's a dream come true." said teammate Nico Aaltonen, "Shaun always stays calm, and the team really senses that. It makes a difference, as does his slapshot!" Which may be an understatement as this was the first championship win for Assat in over 30 years.

After being courted for a number of years, Heshka is off to the KHL next season, where he'll do everything he can to keep up his championship streak. Until then, Heshka, an unrestricted free agent is looking forward to returning to Manitoba for the summer, but it won't be all fun and games. "The training never really ends, but its worth it when its time to get back on the ice."

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