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Mike O'Shea



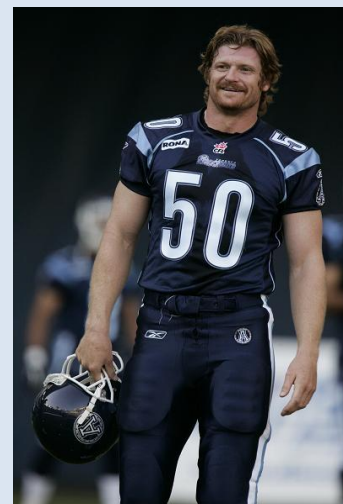
It is a matter of time until Mike O'Shea is a member of the CFL's Hall of Fame. For years, he was the heart of the Toronto Argonauts defense and special teams. He was the team captain and undisputed leader in the dressing room and on the sidelines. Mike played 16 seasons in the league, twelve with the Argos and four with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

Mike began his career in 1993 with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats. He spent until the conclusion of the 1995 season in Steel Town when he tried out with the Detroit Lions of the NFL for the 1996 season. He was one of the last cuts of the Lions, which is the CFL's gain. He then signed on with the Toronto Argonauts and played there from 1996 to 1999. In 1999, Mike was named the CFL's Most Outstanding Canadian Player. He returned to Hamilton for the 2000 season and

then it was back down the QEW Highway to Toronto where he remained until retiring at the conclusion of the 2009 season.

In his career as a middle linebacker, he played 271 regular season games, the most by a defensive player in the history of the league. Mike is the second leading defensive tackle in CFL history and its leading Canadian-born tackler with over 1,151 tackles. He was an Eastern Division All-Star 5 times and a Canadian All-Star once. In 2007, Mike was named the middle linebacker on the Toronto Argonauts all-time team. The Argonauts were founded in 1873 making them the oldest football club, and one of the oldest sports franchises, in all of North America. Mike has won the Grey Cup three times in 1996, 1997 and 2004, all with the Argos.

Upon leaving the game, Mike stepped back into the league by being 1st Vice President of the Players Association. In 2010, Mike returned to the game itself by becoming the Argonauts' Special Teams Coordinator. The heart of a lion that beats within Mike O'Shea just can't get enough football!



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