

## Blues Acquire Jay Bouwmeester from Calgary Flames

Written by Jeff Ponder  
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When watching your favorite team's broadcast, the last thing you expect to see is the team's GM announce a trade in the first intermission.

That is exactly what happened Monday night in the St. Louis Blues' road game with the Minnesota Wild. GM Doug Armstrong, in an interview with Color Analyst Darren Pang, announced that the club had acquired 29-year old defenseman Jay Bouwmeester from the Calgary Flames in exchange for St. Louis' 2013 first-round pick, Peoria Rivermen defenseman Marc Cundari and Swiss goaltender Reto Barra.

The Blues' first-round pick will become a fourth-round pick if the Blues fail to make the playoffs. The Flames would also receive the Blues' first-round pick in 2014 in that scenario.

"We've been looking to acquire a top left-handed defenseman and Jay represents that and is an elite player in our game," said Armstrong.

Bouwmeester has six goals and nine assists in 33 games this season. He has accumulated 71 goals and 229 assists in 750 career NHL games. He is a career minus-65 in 10 NHL seasons with the Florida Panthers and Calgary Flames.

Bouwmeester completes the Blues' quest for a left-handed, offensive defenseman. On Saturday, Armstrong acquired defenseman Jordan Leopold, who is also a left-handed defenseman.

With Bouwmeester and Leopold, the Blues are now carrying nine defensemen. The NHL roster does expand Tuesday at midnight, but it is believed that the Blues are not finished with roster moves. All nine defensemen would have to clear waivers before being sent to the AHL, unless it was on a conditioning stint.