A recent discussion on the LetsGoBlues.com forums made me want to do a little investigating into recent Blues' history. It's quite staggering the information that I have received.

We all know of the recent trade that sent Eric Brewer to Tampa Bay. Brewer has gone on to be quite the success thus far in Tampa, scoring one goal and five assists and getting top-defenseman minutes throughout the playoffs. There is a reason for this; Brewer is just the latest successor in Blues' transaction history involving the one and only Scott Stevens.

It's true; Brewer is tied in with the Hall-of-Fame defenseman. Take a look at the line that Brewer has followed:

Summer 1990: Scott Stevens is signed as a restricted free-agent by the Blues. The Washington Capitals receive compensation.

Summer 1991: The Blues sign yet another restricted free-agent, Brendan Shanahan. After a long debate on proper compensation, the Blues lose Scott Stevens to the New Jersey Devils.

Summer 1995: Brendan Shanahan is traded to the Hartford Whalers for Chris Pronger.

Summer 2005: Chris Pronger is traded to the Edmonton Oilers for Eric Brewer, Jeff Woywitka and Doug Lynch.

Summer 2007: Doug Lynch signs with EC Red Bull Salzburg of the Austrian Hockey League.

Summer 2009: Jeff Woywitka signs with the Dallas Stars of the National Hockey League.

February 2011: Eric Brewer is traded to the Tampa Bay Lightning for Brock Beukeboom and a third round draft selection in the 2011 NHL Entry Draft.

Brewer was the only piece left of the Chris Pronger trade. By trading him, the Blues have Beukeboom and a 2011 third-round pick remaining from the original Scott Stevens signing in 1990.

Why is this relevant? Eric Brewer has been a great acquisition for the Lightning. He has brought veteran leadership along with a cannon from the point to a balanced Tampa Bay lineup. The Florida team finds themselves in the Eastern Conference Finals with a 1-1 series tie. Just seven more wins and Eric Brewer could be a Stanley Cup Champion.

Looking at the list of players involved since Stevens signed a contract with the Blues, every single player, except for Woywitka and Brewer, have gone on to win championships. Scott Stevens won Stanley Cups in 1994-95, 1999-2000 and in 2002-03; Brendan Shanahan did this in 1996-97, 1997-98 and 2001-02; Chris Pronger in 2006-07 and even Doug Lynch won the Austrian title in 2010-11.

The point is that the third-round selection and Beukeboom may be more special than Blues fans realize. HockeysFuture.com has this to say about Beukeboom:

“[Beukeboom] is a defensive defenseman that also has some offensive ability and a skill component to his game. Beukeboom can play with a mean streak when warranted, but is more of a two-way player than was his father [Jeff], who was one of the tougher players on the Wayne Gretzky-led Oilers and won four Stanley Cups. The younger Beukeboom, a forward during much of his youth hockey career, has the ability to join the attack and has a hard shot.”

If the Blues can lock up the young prospect (19 years old), Beukeboom could be proving very soon that he belongs in talks of Stevens, Shanahan and Pronger.

Is all of this a coincidence? Possibly.

Proper drafting and a solid contract for Beukeboom will be the only way of knowing.

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