

Brad Richards: Where Does He Go?

Written by Jeff Angus

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With the final confirmation that Richards' list of teams he would waive his no-movement clause for is Dallas, Vancouver, and Columbus, I'll break each team down as to why he wants to go there and why they would want him.

Dallas:

The Stars would love to add another scoring threat, as it is obvious that both Modano and Lehtinen are losing some steam offensively. Ribeiro and Morrow carry the offense, and Richards could provide a potent secondary attack. Dallas is in a good cap situation and has some solid rookies that are going to be able to contribute, like Loui Eriksson.

Trade Prediction:

Mike Smith, Jussi Jokinen, Mark Fistric, and a high draft pick.

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Vancouver:

Richards is an obvious fit here. The Canucks have very poor organizational depth at center, and Brendan Morrison cannot seem to stay healthy. Richards would ideally slot in between Naslund and speedster Mason Raymond on the second line. Raymond plays a game that has some huge upside in terms of meshing with Richards both now and in the future.

Trade Prediction:

Luc Bourdon, Michael Grabner, and a draft pick.

Columbus:

Perhaps the best fit for Richards, the Jackets have some star wingers but nothing special at center. Richards would immediately become the man in between Nash and Zherdev, which would have the potential to rival any top unit around the league. The only snag is that he seems to want to play for a contending team, and Columbus may be a year or two away from being one. His buddy Freddy Modin plays in Columbus; so do not count out that connection.

Trade Prediction:

Ole-Kristian Tollefsen, Gilbert Brule, Dan Fritsche, and a draft pick.

This report was from the Versus telecast, so do not consider it iron clad like anything TSN puts out. These three teams are the most likely candidates for Richards, but anything can happen come deadline day.

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