



## John Blue

How often does a goaltender come out of California to play in the NHL? It doesn't happen often, but John Blue made it happen.

Blue was selected by the Winnipeg Jets in round ten of the 1986 NHL Entry Draft, 197th overall. Before turning professional, Blue suited up for the United States National Team and was its backup goaltender at the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics. Although he became the property of the Minnesota North Stars in 1988, he never played with the club.

Blue's first shot at the NHL came in 1992-93 when he was between the pipes for 23 games for the Boston Bruins. The highlight of the season came when he stopped Chicago's Denis Savard on a penalty shot. For a period of time it seemed as if



Blue was going to be the Bruins' goalie of the future, but it was not to be. Although he remained in the organization for four years, much of it was spent in the minors as Blue was unable to regain the form that temporarily drew him accolades from the Boston media, which in itself can be a major achievement.

In 1991 Blue signed a free-agent contract with the Buffalo Sabres, but he played just five games with them.

After John left the game, he was pro outreach director for Champions For Christ before going on to be an associate pastor at a church in Austin TX. Since 2006, he has been the lead pastor at a church in California.

