



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Chris Simms To Thank Blood Donors At
St. Joseph's Hospital Blood Drive**

St. Petersburg, FL (10/2/07) On September 24, 2006, Chris Simms of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers had to receive five units of blood during emergency surgery to remove his spleen. For his one year anniversary, he would like to thank blood donors for giving him and others a second chance.

Chris Simms and Florida Blood Services (FBS) have teamed up to thank blood donors at the St. Joseph's Hospital blood drive. **Chris Simms will be at the FBS blood drive hosted by St. Joseph's Hospital on Thursday, October 4th at 4:00 p.m to sign autographs for blood donors.** The blood drive is located in the Medical Arts Building in conference room 1. **St. Joseph's Hospital is located at 3001 W Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd in Tampa.**

"FBS is grateful to Chris Simms for taking the time to come out and meet as well as thank our blood donors," said J.B. Gaskins, FBS Vice President of Donor Systems. "Blood donors are the silent heroes that help patients survive. They are to be commended for their lifesaving efforts."

Generally, healthy people at least 16 years of age (with parental permission) or older who weigh at least 110 pounds can be blood donors. Prospective donors may call 1-800-68-BLOOD (25663) or click on www.fbsblood.org for more information.

Florida Blood Services provides for the blood needs of patients at 38 hospitals in Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, and Pinellas counties, through the participation of volunteer blood donors. Over 750 donations are required daily due to the high quality of medical care in Tampa Bay that serves the most critically ill patients throughout west central Florida.

B-Role: Chris Simms signing autographs, Chris Simms thanking donors at St. Joe's Hospital blood drive.

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