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**CHRIS DRAFT SELECTED AS JB AWARD WINNER AND FINALIST FOR
BYRON "WHIZZER" WHITE AWARD**

-Awards will be presented at NFL PLAYERS Gala in Washington D.C. on April 16, 2009-

ST. LOUIS – St. Louis Rams linebacker Chris Draft has been selected as a JB Award recipient, an annual honor bestowed upon 12 active NFL players in recognition of their off the field contributions. As a winner of a JB Award, Draft is also automatically a finalist for the Byron "Whizzer" White Award, an award named in honor of former NFL player and Supreme Court Justice Byron White. Both awards will be presented at the annual NFL PLAYERS Gala Washington D.C. on April 16, 2009.

"I am honored to be selected as a recipient of a JB Award this year," said Chris Draft. "It is a great feeling to be identified with other NFL players who are dedicated to a movement that fosters positive and significant change across the country."

The NFL PLAYERS Gala, a partnership between the NFL Players Association (NFLPA), NFL PLAYERS and James Brown of CBS Sports, recognizes NFL players who exemplify leadership, dedication and commitment to their team and community. All proceeds from the event benefit the Special Olympics D.C.

Annually, each NFL team nominates one team member for their commitment to achieve excellence off the field through building better communities and stronger families. Brown then reviews the submissions of the 32 nominated players and personally selects 12 players to receive the award. One of those 12 JB Award recipients will also receive the Byron "Whizzer" White Award, the NFLPA's highest honor, on April 16. Following the announcement, the Byron "Whizzer" White Award winner will then be recognized with a permanent display at the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

The other 2009 JB Award recipients and Byron "Whizzer" White Award finalists include: Kurt Warner (Arizona Cardinals), Isaac Bruce (San Francisco 49ers), Mike Furrey (free agent most recently with the Detroit Lions), Daniel Wilcox (Baltimore Ravens), Gary Brackett (Indianapolis Colts), Tony Pashos (Jacksonville Jaguars), Greg Camarillo (Miami Dolphins), Drew Brees (New Orleans Saints), Brian Dawkins (Philadelphia Eagles), David Thornton (Tennessee Titans) and Rock Cartwright (Washington Redskins).

About Chris Draft's Community Efforts

Chris Draft and his Foundation, the Chris Draft Family Foundation, seek to harness the power of sports philanthropy to uplift and empower communities and discover new resources to encourage social good and positive change. Using the unparalleled reach of the St. Louis Rams to leverage the NFL and community of sport, the Chris Draft Family Foundation has worked to promote the fact that "small change can make a big difference." In building a strong alliance of caring people and corporations committed to social change, the Foundation is able to focus on health, wellness, literacy and character education, emphasizing personal responsibility and self-discipline. Chris Draft and his Foundation work to support events and activities centered upon uplifting communities and empowering families to live healthy lifestyles.

2009 marks Chris Draft's 12th year in the NFL, and his experience has shaped the Foundation's mission, goals and community work. Chris Draft and the Foundation have engaged in many activities across the city and county of St. Louis, including the St. Louis Rams Hydration Tour, Barrett Brothers Park Clean-up & Urban Farming project, the Missouri Childhood Asthma Radio PSA Campaign, literacy and attendance events for St. Louis Public School District, A Discussion and A Movie™ - The Great Debaters, the Dance St. Louis "The Most Beautiful Sport in the World" Campaign, "Continuing the Debate" with Nate Parker from The Great Debaters, PHL Football Field Restorations, Home Depot Neighborhood clean-ups and the Foundation's signature fitness camp for the whole family: Get Checked and Get Fit™ Draft Day® St. Louis Style.

This year's Draft Day® St. Louis Style will be held in early May at Herbert Hoover Boys & Girls Club Sportsman's Park Unit on North Grand Avenue in St. Louis. For the second year in a row, the Foundation will host approximately 350 youth and their parents for a half-day of special sessions designed to empower them to make choices to live healthier lifestyles. For more information about Draft Day® St. Louis Style or the Chris Draft Family Foundation, please visit www.chrisdraftfamilyfoundation.org.

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