



# JIMMIE WARD

25

DB » 5-11 » 193 » NORTHERN ILLINOIS

718.91 » MOBILE, AL » W.P. DAVIDSON HS, MOBILE, AL » 4TH YEAR » ACQUIRED D-1 IN '14

## AWARDS & HONORS

**2015:** Hazeltine Iron Man Award

## 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- Tallied his first-career FR at Was. (10/15), scooping up a fumble by Redskins TE Vernon Davis. He returned it 43 yds. and set up a 1-yd. TD run by RB Carlos Hyde on the ensuing play. His 43-yd. return was the longest fumble return by the 49ers since 10/27/13 (at Jax. - LB Dan Skuta - 47 yds.).

## GOLDMINE

- Growing up in Mobile, AL, Ward knew when to separate himself from others in his neighborhood. Said Ward, "From where I come from, the neighborhood that I grew up in, a lot of people don't make it out. There's a lot of stuff. They either flunk out of school, end up having a child so they have to drop out of school and raise that child, or end up going to jail. It really just made me want to do something more than what my peers were doing." Ward would later surround himself with positive influences.
- Ward's family is no stranger to professional athletics. He is the cousin of former NBA player, Caron Butler. Butler, 10 years older than Ward, watched him grow up in Racine, WI, prior to Ward's move to Mobile, AL.
- While playing youth football, Ward went by the nickname 'Neko' and was teammates with former Alabama QB AJ McCarron with the Mobile Youth Football's Municipal Raiders. He played linebacker for the team that won multiple Youth Bowl Championships in Mobile.



## WARD'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Named the 49ers Hazeltine Iron Man Award winner for the 2015 season. The award is named for former linebacker Matt Hazeltine, a 13-year performer who played more seasons at linebacker than any other 49ers player. Known for his durability and dedication, Hazeltine passed away in 1987 from ALS, and Bill Walsh established the award in his honor that year. The award is given annually to the most courageous and inspirational defensive player as voted upon by the defensive coaches.
- On the day he was selected by the 49ers in the 1st round of the 2014 NFL Draft, drove three hours to New Orleans to purchase a new purse for his mother's birthday. He said, "I never really bought her anything expensive, because you're a kid. Growing up you would write a card, color a card or just buy a card or simple flowers. That's the most I ever did. She likes purses, so I just decided to get her a purse. It really didn't matter how much it cost, you just wanted to see that smile." His act of generosity shows his true character. "I'm not a selfish person. I just like to see and make other people smile too. It makes me feel better as a person."
- Was best friends growing up with 49ers 2015 2nd round draft pick, S Jaquiski Tartt. The two were teammates at W.P. Davidson High School in Mobile, AL.

## WARD'S GAME-BY-GAME

### 2017

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 10	Car	L	-	-	INACTIVE (Hamstring)			-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sep 17	at Sea	L	1/0	5	3	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Sep 21	LAR	L	1/1	7	7	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oct 1	at Arz	L	1/1	4	4	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oct 8	at Ind	L	1/1	4	3	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oct 15	at Was	L	1/1	3	2	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	1	43
Oct 22	Dal	L	1/1	6	6	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oct 29	at Phi	L	1/1	3	2	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nov 5	Arz													
Nov 12	NYG													
Nov 26	Sea													
Dec 3	at Chi													
Dec 10	at Hou													
Dec 17	Ten													
Dec 24	Jax													
Dec 31	at LAR													
<b>TOTALS</b>			7/6	32	27	5	0.0	0.0	0	0	1	0	1	43

**WARD'S CAREER STATISTICS**

YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
				TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2014	SF	8	0	23	17	6	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	2	0	0	0
2015	SF	16	8	65	51	14	1.0	9.0	1	29	29t	1	5	0	0	0
2016	SF	11	10	64	49	15	1.0	7.0	1	8	8	0	12	0	0	0
2017	SF	7	6	32	27	5	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	1	0	1	43
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>42</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>29t</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>43</b>

**Additional Statistics:**

**Special Teams Tackles – 9:** 2014 (3); 2015 (4); 2016 (2)

**Special Teams Forced Fumbles – 1:** 2016 (1)

**Special Teams Fumble Recoveries – 1:** 2016 (1)

**Milestones:**

**NFL Debut:** at Dal. (9/7/14); **First Start:** vs. Min. (9/14/15); **First INT:** at Chi. (12/6/15 – QB Jay Cutler); **First INT Returned for a TD:** at Chi. (12/6/15 – QB Jay Cutler); **First Sack:** vs. Cin. (12/20/15 – QB AJ McCarron); **First FR:** at Was. (10/15/17 – TE Vernon Davis)

**WARD'S CAREER HIGHS**

**Total Tackles:** 12 vs. NYJ (12/11/16)

**Solo:** 9 vs. NYJ (12/11/16)

**Assists:** 3 (4 times) Last vs. NYJ (12/11/16)

**Sacks:** 1.0 (2 times) Last vs. NYJ (12/11/16)

**Interceptions:** 1 (2 times) Last vs. NYJ (12/11/16)

**Interception Yards:** 29t at Chi. (12/6/15)

**Fumble Recoveries:** 1 at Was. (10/15/17)

**Passes Defensed:** 4 at Arz. (11/13/16)

**WARD'S TRANSACTIONS**

Originally a 1st-round (30th overall) draft choice by SF in 2014...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/15/14...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/20/16.

## 2016

- Appeared in 11 games (10 starts) and recorded 64 tackles, 1.0 sack, 1 INT and a career-high 12 PDs before being placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/20 with a shoulder injury.
- Registered 9 tackles and a career-high 4 PDs at Arz. (11/13).
- Recorded his first career special teams forced fumble and fumble recovery at Chi. (12/4), knocking the ball loose from WR Deonte Thompson on a kickoff return. It marks the second consecutive year that he has registered a takeaway in Chicago [29-yd. INT return for TD at Chi. (12/6/15)].
- Totaled a career-high 12 tackles, 1 INT, 1.0 sack and 3 PDs vs. NYJ (12/11). On the opening possession of the game, intercepted QB Bryce Petty and returned it 8 yds., marking his first INT of the year and second of his career. In the 2nd Qtr., sacked Petty for a 7-yd. loss, his first sack of the season and second of his career. With 1 INT and 1.0 sack, he became the first 49er to record an INT and a sack in the same game since LB NaVorro Bowman at Arz. (12/29/13 - 1 INT and 1.0 sack).

## 2015

- Saw action in all 16 games with a career-high 8 starts and set new single-season highs with 65 tackles, 1 INT, 5 PDs and 1.0 sack.
- Intercepted Bears QB Jay Cutler and returned it 29 yds. for a TD, marking his first career INT and first career TD at Chi. (12/6).
- Registered 7 tackles and added his first career sack vs. Cin. (12/20), brining down Bengals QB AJ McCarron for a 9-yd. loss.
- Set a career high with 8 tackles vs. StL (1/3/16) and added 1 PD.

## 2014

- Played in 8 games and registered 23 tackles and 2 PDs.

## COLLEGE

Played in 55 games (39 starts - 12 at CB and 27 at S) and totaled 320 tackles, 11 INTs, including 1 returned for a TD, 2.0 sacks, 4 FFs, 1 FR, 26 PDs, 6 TFLs and 4 blocked kicks for the Huskies. As a senior, Ward ranked 7th in the nation with 7 INTs, en route to earning Second-Team All-America and First-Team All-MAC honors. Started all 14 games at safety, and recorded a team-high 95 tackles, while adding 1.0 sack, 2.5 TFLs and led the conference with 10 PDs. In 2012, earned Third-Team All-America honors from the NFL Draft Report and was a First-Team All-MAC selection. Notched a career-high 104 tackles to lead the Huskies defense, and added 3 INTs, 1 FF, 11 PDs and 1 TFL. As a sophomore, earned Second-Team All-MAC honors, and played in 14 games, starting 12 at CB. Registered 100 tackles, 1.0 sack, 1 INT, 1 FF, 4 PDs and 2.5 TFLs. As a true freshman, saw action in all 14 games, tallied 21 tackles, 1 FF, 1 PD and blocked a school-record 3 punts. Named NIU's 2010 Special Teams Player of the Year and Freshman of the Year.

## PERSONAL

- Majored in general studies at Northern Illinois.
- Attended W.P. Davidson (Mobile, AL) HS where he was selected as an honorable mention Class 6A All-State defensive back by the Alabama Sportswriters Association as a senior.
- Also named to the Moblie Press Register's All-Region 4A-6A team following his junior and senior years.
- Born Jimmie Neko Suave Ward (7/18/91) in Racine, WI.

## INJURY REPORT

- 2014:** Inactive at Den. (10/19) with a quadricep injury. Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/15 with a foot injury.
- 2016:** Inactive 3 games [vs. Dal. (10/2), vs. Arz. (10/6) and at Buf. (10/16)] with a quadricep injury. Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/20 with a shoulder injury.
- 2017:** Inactive vs. Car. (9/10) with a hamstring injury.

WARD'S GAME-BY-GAME

2014													2016																
Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds	Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 7	at Dal	W	1/0	2	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sep 12	LAR	W	1/1	2	2	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Sep 14	Chi	L	1/0	4	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sep 18	at Car	L	1/1	11	8	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sep 21	at Arz	L	1/0	3	2	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	2	0	0	0	Sep 25	at Sea	L	1/1	1	1	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Sep 28	Phi	W	1/0	3	3	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Oct 2	Dal	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oct 5	KC	W	1/0	3	2	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Oct 6	Arz	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oct 13	at StL	W	1/0	4	4	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Oct 16	at Buf	L	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oct 19	at Den	L	-	-	-	-	INACTIVE (Quad)	-	-	-	-	-	-	Oct 23	TB	L	1/0	3	3	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nov 2	StL	L	1/0	1	1	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Nov 6	NO	L	1/1	6	5	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Nov 9	at NO	W	1/0	3	2	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Nov 13	at Arz	L	1/1	9	6	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	4	0	0	0
<b>PLACED ON INJURED RESERVE (Foot) ON 11/15</b>													<b>PLACED ON INJURED RESERVE (Shoulder) ON 12/20</b>																
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>8/0</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>11/10</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

2015														
Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 14	Min	W	1/1	3	1	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sep 20	at Pit	L	1/0	1	1	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sep 27	at Arz	L	1/0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oct 4	GB	L	1/1	5	3	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Oct 11	at NYG	L	1/0	7	7	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oct 18	Bal	W	1/0	4	4	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oct 22	Sea	L	1/0	4	2	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nov 1	at StL	L	1/1	3	2	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nov 8	Atl	W	1/1	7	7	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Nov 22	at Sea	L	1/0	3	3	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nov 29	Arz	L	1/0	5	4	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Dec 6	at Chi	W	1/0	3	1	2	0.0	0.0	1	29t	0	0	0	0
Dec 13	at Cle	L	1/1	3	2	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dec 20	Cin	L	1/1	7	6	1	1.0	9.0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Dec 27	at Det	L	1/1	2	2	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jan 3	StL	W	1/1	8	6	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>16/8</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>