

## WIDE RECEIVERS RAY SHERMAN

College: Fresno State

NFL Coaching Year: 26

Rams Coaching Year: 4



Ray Sherman enters his fourth season with the St. Louis Rams as the wide receivers coach. The 2015 season serves as his 40th year in coaching and 26th as an NFL assistant

Sherman helped veteran receiver Kenny Britt reach a new career high in receptions. Britt's 748 receiving yards led all Rams and marked the second highest total of his career. In addition, WR Brian Quick was enjoying a breakout year with career highs in catches, yards and touchdowns in just seven games before a shoulder injury ended his third NFL campaign.

In 2013, Sherman helped develop a pair of rookie receivers that had an impact on an improved offense. In 13 games, first-round pick Tavon Austin led all Rams' wide receivers with 40 receptions. He caught four touchdown passes and also gained 151 yards on nine rushes, including a 65-yard touchdown run. Third-round pick Stedman Bailey caught 17 passes, all of which came in the final seven games, and scored on a 27-yard run.

In his first season with the Rams, Sherman oversaw a young receiver group that progressed as the season went along. Chris Givens, the 13th wide receiver selected in the 2012 draft, finished fourth among NFL rookies in receiving yards (698) and recorded a reception of 50 yards or more in five consecutive games. Givens led the Rams in receiving yards in 2012.

Veteran Brandon Gibson set new career highs in receiving yards (691) and touchdown catches (5), and despite battling injuries, Danny Amendola approached career highs in catches and receiving yards while contributing three touchdowns.

Prior to joining the Rams, Sherman spent four years with the Dallas Cowboys, coaching wide receivers from 2007-10. During his time with the Cowboys, Sherman worked with Terrell Owens, who accumulated three consecutive 1,000-yard plus seasons. Under Sherman, Owens saw one of his most productive seasons of his career, setting a club record for touchdowns in a season (15), breaking Frank Clarke's mark of 14 set in 1962, and posting six 100-yard games ¬¬— tying the second most in a season in his career and tying the third-most by a receiver in team history in 2007. Sherman also oversaw the development of Miles Austin and added veteran Pro Bowler, Roy Williams, to his core group of receivers.

Before landing in Dallas, Sherman spent two seasons (2005-06) coaching the Tennessee Titans receivers. Despite working with a rookie quarterback in Vince Young in 2006, Sherman's top receivers (Drew Bennett and

Bobby Wade) enjoyed their best single-season averages for yards-per-catch (Bennett, 16.0 and Wade, 14.0), while second-year receiver Brandon Jones bettered his rookie numbers with 27 receptions for 384 yards (14.2 avg.) and four touchdowns.

In his first year with the Titans (2005), Sherman mentored a trio of rookie draft picks – Brandon Jones, Courtney Roby and Roydell Williams – along with veteran Drew Bennett in the lead receiver role. The three rookie receivers, along with rookie tight end Bo Scaife, became the first quartet of rookie pass catchers to each collect at least 20 receptions since the 1968 Buffalo Bills (Max Anderson, Gary McDermott, Haven Moses, and Richard Trapp). Each of Sherman's three rookie receivers earned starting nods at some point during the season.

Before landing in Tennessee, Sherman spent five seasons (2000-04) as the wide receivers coach for the Green Bay Packers. During his run in Green Bay, Sherman helped develop a corps of young receivers — Javon Walker, Donald Driver and Robert Ferguson — into elite receivers with Driver (2002, 2006 and 2007) and Ferguson (2005) earning trips to the Pro Bowl.

In 2004 Driver and Walker ranked second in the NFL for yards by a receiver combination (2,590) and Walker was third in the league with 1,382 yards with 12 touchdowns in just his third NFL season. In 2002 the Packers led the league with 29 touchdown receptions.

Prior to coaching in Green Bay, Sherman was the offensive coordinator for the Minnesota Vikings (1999) and Pittsburgh Steelers (1998). The Vikings offense ranked third in the league in total offense and had the fifth-best passing attack in the league. While with the Steelers, Sherman's offense featured a running attack that finished seventh in the league.

Sherman was the quarterbacks coach (1995-97) for the Vikings before guiding the offense in Pittsburgh. Minnesota quarterback Warren Moon led the NFL in completions (377) and matched a career-high in touchdowns (33) under Sherman's tutelage. From 1996-97 Sherman oversaw the maturation of Brad Johnson into a starter as he ranked in the top-five in the league each season in passer rating. Before his first stint in Minnesota, Sherman coordinated Pete Carroll's offense in 1994 – Carroll's only season as the N.Y. Jets head coach.

Sherman spent three seasons (1991-93) with the San Francisco 49ers, first as their running backs coach (1991) then as the receivers coach (1992-93). Under Sherman's guidance, Jerry Rice had one of the best seasons of his

career in 1993, recording 1,503 yards and 15 touchdowns en route to earning AP Offensive Player of the Year honors.

Sherman followed Jerry Glanville to the Atlanta Falcons and spent one season (1990) as the Falcons assistant head coach/offense. He helped the Falcons finish 10th in the league in scoring and total offense after finishing in the bottom third the previous season.

Sherman made his NFL coaching debut under Glanville with the Houston Oilers as the team's running backs coach (1988). In his second season in Houston, he coached the club's receivers.

After playing wide receiver and defensive back at Fresno State, Sherman began a 14-year collegiate coaching career. He began as a graduate assistant at San Jose State (1974), then coached defensive backs at California (1975), tight ends at Michigan State (1976-77), running backs at Wake Forest (1978-80), running backs/slot backs at California (1981), running backs at Purdue (1982-85) and wide receivers at Georgia (1986-87).

Born in Berkeley, California, Sherman and his wife Yvette have two children: Erica and Alana. His first child, Ray II, passed away in 2003.

## **RAY SHERMAN, AT A GLANCE**

2012-	ST. LOUIS RAMS	1990	ATLANTA FALCONS
	Wide Receivers		Assistant Head Coach/ Offense
2007-11	DALLAS COWBOYS	1989	HOUSTON OILERS
	Wide Receivers		Wide Receivers
2005-06	TENNESSEE TITANS	1988	HOUSTON OILERS
	Wide Receivers		Running Backs
2000-04	GREEN BAY PACKERS	1986-87	GEORĞIA
	Wide Receivers		Wide Receivers
1999	MINNESOTA VIKINGS	1982-85	PURDUE
	Offensive Coordinator		Running Backs
1998	PITTSBURGH STEELERS	1981	CALIFŎRNIA
	Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks		Running Backs/ Slot Backs
1995-97	MINNESOTA VIKINGS	1978-80	WAKE FOREST
	Quarterbacks		Running Backs
1994	NEW YORK JETS	1976-77	MICHIĞAN STATE
	Offensive Coordinator		Tight Ends
1992-93	SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS	1975	CĂLIFORNIA
	Wide Receivers		Defensive Backs
1991	SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS	1974	SAN JOSE STATE
	Running Backs		Graduate Assistant
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