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Former Ravens star Jacoby Jones hired as Calvert Hall wide receivers coach

By [Kyle J. Andrews](#)

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Jacoby Jones speaks to reporters after signing his new deal with the Ravens. (Kevin Richardson, Baltimore Sun)

The Calvert Hall football team made a splash hire Tuesday by making former Ravens star and Super Bowl hero Jacoby Jones its wide receivers coach.

Cardinals coach Josh Ward mentioned [last month that the team is looking to become a “national program.”](#) Hiring Jones comes as a welcome addition to the staff, bringing name recognition as an All-Pro and Pro Bowl selection, along with being a Super Bowl champion.

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“I was walking around and Jacoby was on campus today and he even sees it,” Ward said. “We have the facilities, we have the academics we have the capabilities to be at that level, and to add a guy like Jacoby, along with the rest of my staff, we have the staff to take us that level. That was my goal.”

Ward got connected with Jones through a friend that is also an alumni of Calvert Hall a few weeks ago. The two kept in touch and Ward made space to bring the former return man onboard. Jones moved back to Baltimore on Thursday from his hometown of New Orleans and they made a verbal agreement Thursday to add him to the coaching staff. Tuesday was Jones' first day of practice.

Jones was blown away at the ability of the coaching staff to relay information to each other and pass in down to players in team meetings.

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“Yesterday was our first practice and after practice, those boys were working their butts off,” Jones said. “After practice, we were having an offensive meeting and I’ve never seen a high school coach do that. We had a meeting, clarifying what we were going to do on offense and that’s college-level type of things — league type of things and I was like ‘OK, we’re here. We’re trying to win a championship. That’s how you win.’”

Jones had his best season as a Raven in 2012, catching 30 passes for 406 yards and a touchdown. The special teams ace returned 37 punts for 341 yards and a touchdown along with a league-high two kickoff return touchdowns and 30.7 yards per return, earning All-Pro and Pro Bowl honors.

His ability as a return man has already proven to be a valuable asset for the young Calvert Hall team.

“The kids were in love,” Ward said. “Just to see him helping out at punt return — we were doing some special teams today and he was back there. You’ve got a guy that’s returned a kickoff for touchdowns and plenty of punt returns for touchdowns and probably one of the most famous kickoff returns where [Pittsburgh Steelers coach] Mike Tomlin stepped on the field.

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"He's literally returned kicks and punts in the NFL teaching our punt returners how to catch the ball and how to read the punt. It's just crazy. It's a surreal feeling for the kids and just to see the knowledge and to see them soak that in is awesome."

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Jones describes himself as "a laid back guy," not letting the fame get too big for him. He displayed his attitude towards life and football by taking kids to the side and giving them tips. He hopes that those lessons can continue to serve his new program, after serving as an assistant coach at his alma mater Lane College.

"I just show them some tips and make them do the craziest things to catch a punt," Jones said. "When they lean into that, I just tell them to listen to that 'thump.' When they turn their back to the ball and when you hear that 'thump,' find it."

Jones was an instrumental part of the Ravens' Super Bowl run that season. In the AFC divisional round against the Denver Broncos, Jones hauled in a game-tying 70-yard touchdown pass from former Ravens quarterback Joe Flacco in the final minute in what became known as the "Mile High Miracle." The Ravens won in overtime, 38-35, defeated the New England Patriots in the conference championship game and topped the San Francisco 49ers, 34-31, in Super Bowl XLVII. Jones had starring role in the Super Bowl victory, catching a 56-yard touchdown pass and returning a kickoff 108 yards for a touchdown.

Jones amassed 853 punt return yards and a touchdown in his three years with Baltimore (2012 to 2014), along with 2,472 kick return yards and four touchdowns. He added 76 receptions for 992 yards and three touchdowns.

After being cut by the Ravens in 2015, less than a year after signing a four-year, \$14 million contract, he went on to finish his NFL career with the then-San Diego Chargers and Steelers before signing with the Monterrey Steel of the National Arena League in March 2017. Jones played eight games, catching 19 passes for 169 yards and one touchdown. He signed a one-day contract with the Ravens on September 29, 2017, officially retiring from football.

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Kyle J. Andrews is a high school sports reporter. He is a 2018 University of Baltimore graduate and a Randallstown native. Before joining Baltimore Sun Media, Kyle was a Ravens and Orioles reporter for 105.7 The Fan in Baltimore. He also interned with Pressbox Media and Fox Sports 1340 AM.

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