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Gill Byrd



Gill compiled a stand-out 10-year NFL career playing exclusively with the San Diego Chargers and retired after the 1993 season as the team's all-time leader in interceptions (42) and interception return yards (546), two records which he still owns. Chosen by the Chargers with the 22nd overall pick of the first round in the 1983 NFL Draft, Byrd led all NFL cornerbacks in interceptions for three consecutive seasons (1989-91) and paced the Chargers in four straight years (1988-91). Earning All-NFL honors from The Sporting News in 1989 and Football Digest in 1990, Byrd was selected to the Pro Bowl following the 1991 and 1992 seasons. He spent the 1993 season on Injured Reserve with San Diego before retiring. Byrd was inducted into the Chargers Hall of Fame in 1998.

He returned to the NFL with the Green Bay Packers in 1999, serving as the team's executive director/player programs and community affairs for two seasons (1999-2001). In that role, Byrd directed the family assistance program of the Packers' players along with guiding players in continuing education, financial education and career internships. He began his coaching career as a volunteer with the Rams in 2003 under then-defensive coordinator Lovie Smith. Byrd earned a coaching contract at the end of the 2003 season and was promoted to assistant secondary coach in 2005.

Gill Byrd is currently the Chicago Bears assistant defensive backs/safeties coach. In 2007 he served as the assistant defensive backs coach after holding the position of defensive quality control coach in his first year with the team. In his new role Byrd will focus on the team's safety position.

Byrd came to Chicago from St. Louis where he began his coaching career in 2003. His first two seasons were spent as the Rams defensive assistant before being promoted to assistant secondary coach for the 2005 campaign.

Gill graduated from San Jose State with a degree in finance. Gill's son Jarius now stars for the Buffalo Bills, following in dad's big shoes.



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