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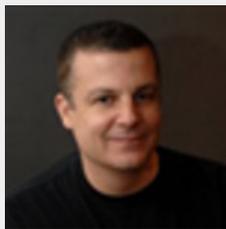
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Michigan announces Jim Harbaugh as head football coach



Tim Pulice

University of Michigan Examiner

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Jim Harbaugh speaks as he is introduced as the new Head Coach of the University of Michigan football team at the Junge Family Champions Center on December 30, 2014 in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Photo by Gregory Shamus/Getty Images

The University of Michigan today (Tuesday, December 30) confirmed that **Jim Harbaugh** will take over as its head football coach. The subject of much speculation in recent days, U-M interim athletic director Jim Hackett made the official announcement at a press conference in [Ann Arbor](#), where reporters, former coaches, players and others gathered to hear news of Harbaugh's return to his alma mater,

Harbaugh played quarterback from 1982-86 for legendary Maize and Blue coach Bo

Schembechler, and then 14 years as a QB in the National Football League. After his playing career ended, Harbaugh began to coach in the NFL, initially as QB coach with the Oakland Raiders. After a successful college football coaching stint with Stanford, Harbaugh went back to the pro ranks in 2011 as head coach of the San Francisco 49ers, whose season ended on Sunday (December 28).

During his time with the 49ers, he took his team to three consecutive appearances in the NFC championship game and one Super Bowl, but was unable to make the playoffs this season, which ended with an 8-8 record. Harbaugh is the 20th head football coach in Michigan program history and takes over from former Wolverine head coach Brady Hoke, whom Hackett dismissed earlier this month following four years as sideline boss, the last of which concluded a 5-7 record and no bowl postseason bowl appearance.

Full details of Harbaugh's contract with the university are not available as of this writing. However, its official athletic website, MGoBlue.com, has a comprehensive article that recaps his playing days with Michigan, his coaching career and more. It also includes a link to today's press conference, in which Harbaugh apologized for his hoarse voice and frequently joked with reporters.

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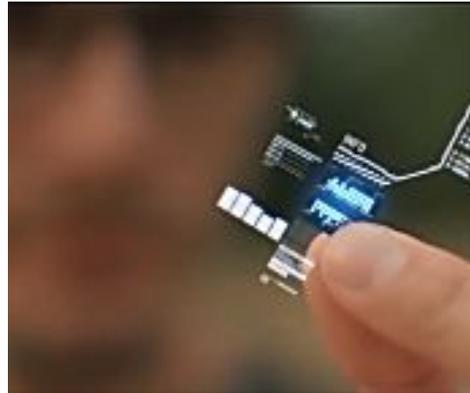
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