

Sam Harrell Beats Disease, Returns to Ennis

 247sports.com/high-school/texas/Article/Sam-Harrell-Beats-Disease-Returns-to-Ennis-118854409/

By [Nick Walters](#) Jun 7, 2018



Sam Harrell has overcome years of Stem Cell Therapy to recover from Multiple Sclerosis and return to coaching.

Not even disease can stop Sam Harrell from coaching football at Ennis High School.

After fighting Multiple Sclerosis for years, the three-time state champion and Texas Sports Hall of Famer returned to coaching in 2017 at Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahachie.

The Old Coach has been informed that Harrell is expected to return to coaching the Ennis Lions.

BREAKING: Sam Harrell expected to return as Head Coach of Ennis Lions.

A 3-time state champion at Ennis.

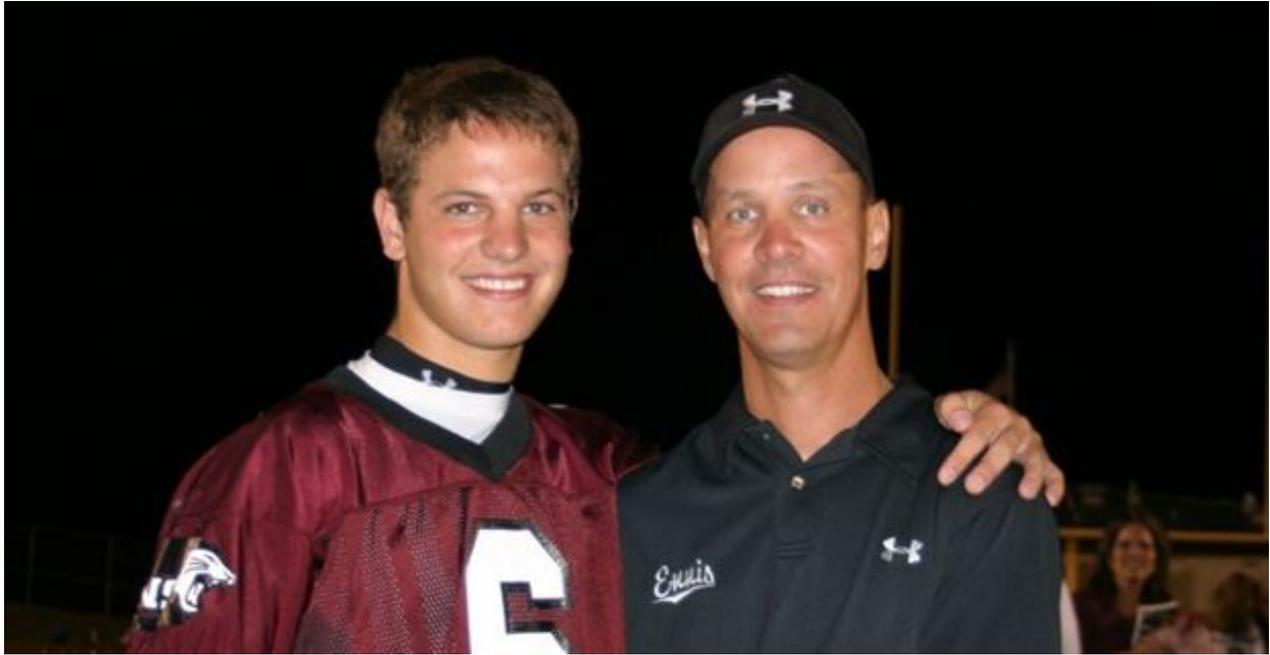
Announcement coming on Thursday. pic.twitter.com/fQthzl83Ju

— The Old Coach (@TheOldCoach) [June 7, 2018](#)

Sources tell The Old Coach that Ennis ISD plans to announce Harrell's hiring on Thursday.

Harrell coached Ennis from 1994-2009, finishing with a 153-51 before being forced into retirement due to sickness. Harrell led Ennis to the playoffs 11 consecutive years and had nine straight seasons of 10 wins or more. Most notably, Harrell and his Ennis Lions

captured the 4A State Championship **thrice** - in 2000, 2001 and 2004.



Sam (right) in early 2000s with his son Graham (left), state champion Ennis QB, future Texas Tech standout, and later a Green Bay Packers draft pick. (Photo: Waco Tribune-Herald)

Harrell's journey back to Ennis is one of bravery, belief, and community support.

As his condition worsened, Harrell began to expect the loss of his mobility.

"I was probably six months away from being in a wheelchair," Harrell remembers.

But once he regained strength, Harrell made it his mission to walk the sidelines once again.

Sam Harrell overcame all odds.

Once a 3-time state champ at Ennis.

Then stricken with Multiple Sclerosis.

Now after years of Stem Cell Therapy, Harrell returns to Ennis as head coach.

pic.twitter.com/TmQWZIEgkF

— The Old Coach (@TheOldCoach) [June 7, 2018](#)

More updates on this breaking story forthcoming.

Stay tuned to [@TheOldCoach](#) on Twitter for more on Harrell, Ennis, and more.

Make sure to watch our own [Jeff Power's full Ennis Football documentary below.](#)

[">247Sports](#)