

= Randall Cunningham II =

Randall Cunningham II , sometimes Randall Cunningham , Jr . , (born January 4 , 1996) is an American collegiate high jumper for the USC Trojans Men 's track & field team who will be a junior during the 2016 ? 17 school year . He was a high jumper and quarterback at Bishop Gorman High School . He is a five @-@ time Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) state champion (three times in track and twice in football) . He is a NCAA Outdoor Track Champion and 2 @-@ time All @-@ American , U.S. Junior National Champion and Pan American Junior Athletics Championships Champion .

In track , he set USA Track & Field (USATF) and Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) national 15 ? 16 @-@ year @-@ old boys high jump records with a heights of 2 @.@ 16 metres (7 ft 1 @.@ 0 in) and 7 feet 2 inches (2 @.@ 18 m) , respectively , as a sophomore . As a junior , he posted the highest jump of the year by an American high school student in Spring 2013 with a height of 7 feet 3 @.@ 25 inches (2 @.@ 22 m) . He was the 2013 Nevada Track & Field Gatorade Athlete of the Year . He won the NIAA state high jump championship as a freshman , as a junior and as a senior .

In football , he led Gorman to its fifth consecutive Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) state championship in 2013 and declined numerous Division I Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) scholarship offers as well as an offer to play football at Yale University . He is the son of retired National Football League quarterback Randall Cunningham and nephew of retired NFL fullback Sam Cunningham .

During his freshman year at USC , he became an All @-@ American by placing 8th in the year @-@ end National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) outdoor championships . During the subsequent summer he became the U.S. Junior National high jump Champion and won a gold medal at the 2015 Pan American Junior Athletics Championships . He won the 2016 NCAA outdoor championships as a sophomore .

= = Career = =

= = = Football = = =

Cunningham attended nearby Silverado High School in Las Vegas for his freshman season . His father , who had previously coached his youth teams , was hired as the football team 's offensive coordinator and for the track team 's staff in December 2009 . In August 2011 , his father resigned his positions and transferred his son to Bishop Gorman just prior to his sophomore year .

Due to NIAA rules which require a transfer student to wait a year before participating in athletic activities , Randall II was required to sit out his sophomore year in both football and track and field at Bishop Gorman . Then , he backed up four @-@ time state champion starting quarterback Anu Solomon as a junior . That season , he compiled 298 yards and two touchdowns on 21 ? 32 passing with four interceptions and added 42 rushes for 483 yards and seven touchdowns . By his junior year , his 40 @-@ yard dash speed was laser @-@ timed at 4 @.@ 6 seconds . As a senior , he inherited a team that Solomon had led to four consecutive state championships . Despite not starting until his senior season , he entered the year with football scholarship offers from Mississippi State , LSU , Baylor , Syracuse , Arizona State , Utah and UNLV . USA Today predicts that Baylor and LSU may be favorites because of their strong track programs .

During his senior season , the team played a schedule of out @-@ of @-@ state schools for its first 6 games before beginning league competition . Bishop Gorman won 4 of those games . Its October 4 contest with Miami 's Booker T. Washington High School was broadcast on ESPNU at a time when Washington was the number one ranked high school in the country . By that time , he had added offers from Kansas State and Yale . In the five previous season under head coach Tony Sanchez , Bishop Gorman had gone 60 ? 5 and not lost by more than 14 points . Bishop Gorman entered the game with national rankings of 18 by Rivals.com , 32 by Student Sports . Gorman trailed 14 ? 12 with 8 : 35 remaining when Cunningham fumbled . Washington scored a touchdown and

then another following Cunningham 's third interception , resulting in a 28 ? 12 defeat . Subsequently , Cunningham led Gorman through an undefeated Southwest League regular season , marking the seventh consecutive such occurrence for the school . By mid @-@ November , Cunningham stated " I like USC , UCLA , Kansas State , Texas , ASU , and Indiana - and Oregon as well " . On December 7 , he led Gorman to a 48 ? 14 victory over Edward C. Reed High School in the state championship , rushing for 4 touchdowns and 213 yards on 22 carries and throwing for a touchdown and 111 yards on 9 @-@ of @-@ 11 passing . Cunningham was briefly recruited by Clay Helton , USC quarterback coach under Steve Sarkisian , but USC did not make him a football scholarship offer . After accepting a track scholarship to USC , Cunningham announced he would attempt to walk @-@ on to the football team .

= = = Track = = =

On August 1 , 2010 , Cunningham placed second in the 13 ? 14 age group at the USATF National Junior Olympics with a high jump of 5 feet 8 @.@ 75 inches (1 @.@ 75 m) . As a freshman , he won the May 20 , 2011 NIAA AAAA high jump championship with a jump of 6 feet 7 inches (2 @.@ 01 m) . As a sophomore , he sat out of NIAA competition after transferring . His father 's best high jump in high school was 6 feet 9 inches (2 @.@ 06 m) . On June 24 , 2012 , Cunningham established the USATF 15 ? 16 age group Outdoor Track & Field record with a jump of 2 @.@ 16 metres (7 ft 1 @.@ 0 in) . Cunningham won the August 2012 National AAU Junior Olympic Games high jump with a jump of 7 feet 2 inches (2 @.@ 18 m) . He actually won the 15 ? 16 age group with a height of 6 feet 9 inches (2 @.@ 06 m) . The Junior Olympic age group record of 7 feet 0 inches (2 @.@ 13 m) by Johnnie Bartley had stood since 1986 , but Cunningham continued to jump past his winning height to establish a new Junior Olympic record . By April 11 of his 2013 junior season , he had already cleared 7 feet (2 @.@ 13 m) , which was the NIAA state championship record , four times that season . In the May 18 , 2013 NIAA state championships , he achieved a high jump of 7 feet 3 @.@ 25 inches (2 @.@ 22 m) , which was the best height by a high school high jumper in the nation that year . He earned the 2013 Nevada Track & Field Gatorade Player of the Year award . In the August 2013 AAU Junior Olympics , he was second or third in the 17 ? 18 age group with a height of 6 feet 10 inches (2 @.@ 08 m) or 7 feet (2 @.@ 13 m) , depending on the source . On January 3 , 2014 , he made a verbal commitment to the USC Trojans track team , shunning over 30 football scholarship offers . In 2014 at the annual Mt . SAC (Mt . San Antonio College) Relays , he set the American high school season best for boys of 7 feet 2 inches (2 @.@ 18 m) on the same April 12 day his sister Vashti did so for girls with 6 feet 2 inches (1 @.@ 88 m) . He was surpassed by Bryant O 'Georgia of Arizona by one quarter inch in May . Cunningham placed first in the May 24 , 2014 NIAA state championship with a high jump of 6 feet 11 inches (2 @.@ 11 m) and second with a long jump of 22 feet 8 @.@ 25 inches (6 @.@ 92 m) .

As a freshman at the University of Southern California , Cunningham finished second at the PAC @-@ 12 Outdoor Championships with a height of 2 @.@ 16 metres (7 ft 1 in) and tied for 8th at the 2015 NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field Championships (2 @.@ 16 metres (7 ft 1 in)) . Two weeks later , he won the U.S. Junior National Championship with a 2 @.@ 20 m (7 ft 21 ? 2 in) . His top 8 finish in the NCAAAs earned him All @-@ American recognition . In his freshman year , Randall was coached by 2 @-@ time Olympian Jamie Nieto who took over as the USC assistant coach in charge of jumps and multi @-@ events on August 20 , 2014 . Later that summer he earned a gold medal at the 2015 Pan American Junior Athletics Championships with a jump of 2 @.@ 16 m (7 ft 1 in) . His sister Vashti also won gold at that same competition .

As a sophomore , he was second again at the PAC @-@ 12 Outdoor Championship with a height of 2 @.@ 18 metres (7 ft 1 @.@ 8 in) and won the 2016 NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field Championships with a height of 2 @.@ 25 metres (7 ft 4 @.@ 6 in) , which is an outdoor personal best . Cunningham no @-@ heighted at the July 8 , 2016 Olympic Trials qualifying round after three unsuccessful attempts at 2 @.@ 14 metres (7 ft 0 @.@ 3 in) . The trials were held during a torrential downpour that was deemed severe enough to suspend the women 's pole vault event and that seemed to impair the men 's discuss event .

= = Personal = =

In a highly anticipated birth , Cunningham II was born to Randall Cunningham and Felicity (née De Jager) in Las Vegas on January 4 , 1996 . He is well known as the son of 2 @-@ time All @-@ American punter and 4 @-@ time Pro Bowl quarterback Cunningham . He is also the nephew of College Football Hall of Fame running back Sam Cunningham . In addition , he has two other Cunningham uncles (A.C. and Bruce) who played Division I football . His mother , Felicity , is a native South African who was formerly a professional ballerina with the Dance Theatre of Harlem . His younger sister , Vashti , is a World Indoor Champion and subsequently signed a professional contract with Nike while still in high school . His brother , Christian , died at age 2 . Cunningham also competed in the long jump in high school .

As of his junior year in high school , Cunningham intended to compete in both football and track in college , although his father 's alma mater , UNLV , does not have a men 's track program . Baylor , who made him his first offer , has coined the nickname RC2 , a reference to RG3 , for him . He aspired to break the national high school record of 7 feet 5 @.@ 75 inches (2 @.@ 28 m) , and he also aspires to be an Olympic high jumper , but the automatic qualifying jump for the 2012 team was 2 @.@ 28 m (7 ft 53 ? 4 in) . The qualifying standard for the 2016 Olympics is 2 @.@ 29 m (7 ft 6 in) .