

= Jack Swagger =

Donald Jacob " Jake " Hager Jr . ( born March 24 , 1982 ) is an American professional wrestler , and former amateur wrestler , signed to WWE where he performs on the Raw brand under the ring name Jack Swagger .

Hager attended the University of Oklahoma as a two @-@ sport athlete , participating in both football and wrestling . He switched to wrestling full @-@ time in his sophomore year , and in 2006 , set the record for most pins in a season with 30 as an All @-@ American . Following a try @-@ out , Hager signed a WWE contract in mid @-@ 2006 . Since being in WWE , Swagger is a two time world @-@ champion having won the World Heavyweight Championship and ECW Championship each once , and a one @-@ time United States Champion .

= = Early life = =

Hager started wrestling at the age of five . He wrestled in high school with Danny Hodge 's grandson and remains good friends with Hodge as he grew up living two blocks away from him in Perry , Oklahoma .

Hager was a two @-@ sport athlete in high school , competing in wrestling and American football . He was also class president as a sophomore and junior . Hager was the No. 5 @-@ ranked 215 @-@ pounder by Wrestling USA in 1999 . He won the 215 @-@ pound division of the state wrestling championship as a junior after being a runner @-@ up as a sophomore . Hager then joined the Junior National USA wrestling team as a heavyweight during the summer of 2000 . His junior year , while playing football , he recorded 45 tackles and 6 sacks in 3 games in before breaking his ankle . He recorded 75 tackles and 3 fumble recoveries as a senior , helping Perry post a 10 ? 3 mark .

The University of Oklahoma recruited Hager as a two @-@ sport athlete in football and wrestling . He was the second @-@ string defensive tackle behind eventual National Football League players Tommie Harris and Dusty Dvoracek . He stopped playing football and concentrated fully on wrestling his sophomore year . During his junior year , he was introduced to Jim Ross , who was World Wrestling Entertainment ( WWE ) ' s Head of Talent Relations at the time , through former OU defensive tackle Dusty Dvoracek , Hager ' s close friend and college roommate . Ross encouraged Hager to contact him after graduating to see about a career in professional wrestling . At the 2005 NCAA Division I championships , he lost to University of Pennsylvania 's Matt Feast in the second round , and did not place . As a senior in 2006 , Hager had a seventh @-@ place finish in the NCAA championships and also defeated the future national champion , Dustin Fox from Northwestern University . Hager was named an All @-@ American at season 's end while setting the Oklahoma record for most pins in a single season with 30 .

In 2006 , Hager graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor 's degree in finance . Following his graduation , he was going to work with a firm in Dallas , Texas , but signed with WWE after they offered a contract the day he was scheduled to start .

= = Professional wrestling career = =

= = = World Wrestling Entertainment / WWE = = =

= = = Deep South Wrestling ( 2006 ? 2007 ) = = =

In 2006 , Hager had a WWE tryout in Deep South Wrestling ( DSW ) , and in September 2006 , under his real name , he made his in @-@ ring debut for DSW , defeating Antonio Mestre in a dark match .

===== Ohio Valley Wrestling ( 2007 ) =====

He competed mainly in dark matches before being moved to Ohio Valley Wrestling ( OVW ) in January 2007 . He debuted for the promotion by defeating Atlas DaBone , and in the following months began a feud with K.C. James . Hager began teaming with a multitude of opponents to feud with James and his tag team partner Cassidy James . During his time in the developmental territories he appeared as a security guard during a brawl between John Cena and Umaga on Raw .

===== Florida Championship Wrestling ( 2007 ? 2008 ) =====

In August 2007 , Hager was reassigned to Florida Championship Wrestling ( FCW ) , where he began a feud with TJ Wilson . On February 15 , 2008 , at the Florida State Fair in Tampa , Florida , Hager and Ted DiBiase Jr. were the final two men remaining in a 23 @-@ man battle royal to determine the two contenders for the FCW Florida Heavyweight Championship . Hager then defeated DiBiase to become champion . On March 22 , 2008 , Hager went against the FCW Southern Heavyweight Champion Heath Miller in New Port Richey , Florida to determine the true Heavyweight Champion . Both championships were on the line , and Hager defeated Miller to become the undisputed heavyweight champion in FCW . He later defended the championship against Miller , TJ Wilson , James Curtis , and Gabe Tuft .

During this time , Hager had a gimmick of having an undefeated streak in FCW . His first loss came in the form of a Raw dark match , at the TV taping on August 18 , 2008 , when he lost to William Regal . He also lost to D 'Lo Brown in a dark match , before defeating Jamie Noble in a dark match prior to a SmackDown taping on August 29 . He then lost the FCW Florida Heavyweight Championship to Sheamus O 'Shaunessy on September 18 , after debuting for the ECW brand .

===== ECW Champion ( 2008 ? 2009 ) =====

On September 9 , 2008 , Hager made his debut on the ECW brand under the ring name Jack Swagger , winning a match against a local competitor . He immediately established himself as a heel by starting a feud with Tommy Dreamer . He attacked Dreamer on the September 23 episode of ECW , when Dreamer attempted to stop Swagger from attacking Chase Stevens . He later defeated Dreamer in a wrestling match and an " Amateur Wrestling Challenge " competition . After weeks of feuding , their rivalry ended in November in an Extreme Rules match , which Swagger won to extend his undefeated streak in ECW .

He then sought to challenge Matt Hardy for the ECW Championship and was named the number one contender on the December 30 episode of ECW . In 2009 , on the January 13 episode of ECW , Swagger defeated Hardy to win his first title in WWE , the ECW Championship . His undefeated streak in singles competition ended on the February 3 episode of ECW when he lost to Finlay in a non @-@ title match . After successfully defending his title against Hardy at the Royal Rumble and Finlay at No Way Out , Swagger began a feud with the returning Christian , to whom he lost the ECW Championship at Backlash , which ended his 104 @-@ day reign as champion . He attempted to regain the championship title in a singles match against Christian at Judgment Day and in a triple threat hardcore match at Extreme Rules , but was unsuccessful in both attempts . His attempt to win the ECW Championship at The Bash in an ECW Championship Scramble also failed .

On June 29 , 2009 , Swagger was traded to the Raw brand , making his debut as part of a three @-@ on @-@ one gauntlet match against WWE Champion Randy Orton , in which he got himself purposely counted out in order to make an impression on Orton . On the July 13 episode of Raw , he won his first match on the brand by defeating Montel Vontavious Porter ( MVP ) . He then feuded with MVP for several weeks , culminating at SummerSlam , in a match that MVP won . After his short feud with MVP ended , Swagger began pursuing the WWE United States Championship . He had his first singles match for the championship on September 21 against Kofi Kingston , but lost the match by countout after stealing the championship and leaving the arena with it , although

Kingston later took it back while Swagger was in a physical confrontation with The Miz . Swagger made another unsuccessful attempt at the championship at the Hell in a Cell pay @-@ per @-@ view in a Triple Threat match against Kingston and The Miz . On January 31 at the Royal Rumble , Swagger entered at number 26 in the Royal Rumble match , but was later eliminated by Kofi Kingston .

===== World Heavyweight Champion ( 2010 ) =====

On the March 1 , 2010 episode of Raw , Swagger defeated Santino Marella to qualify for the Money in the Bank ladder match at WrestleMania XXVI , where he won , earning a contract for any WWE world championship over the following year . On the first episode of Raw following WrestleMania , Swagger tried to cash in his Money in the Bank contract against the WWE Champion John Cena , but changed his mind when he realized that Cena was not incapacitated enough to be defeated easily . As the match had never started , Swagger retained the contract for use at a future date .

Swagger cashed in the contract during the SmackDown taping on March 30 , 2010 , after the World Heavyweight Champion Chris Jericho had been speared by Edge . Swagger went on to defeat Jericho to win the World Heavyweight Championship for the first time . Following his championship win , Swagger began to develop a more serious persona : previously he had been known for doing pushups and beating his chest during his ring entrance . He successfully defended his championship against Edge and Jericho in a triple threat match on the April 16 episode of SmackDown , and against Randy Orton in an Extreme Rules match at the Extreme Rules pay @-@ per @-@ view . At Over the Limit , Swagger retained the title against The Big Show by intentionally disqualifying himself . At the Fatal 4 @-@ Way pay @-@ per @-@ view on June 20 , Swagger lost the championship to Rey Mysterio in a fatal four @-@ way match , also involving CM Punk and The Big Show . Following the Fatal 4 @-@ Way pay @-@ per @-@ view , Swagger began attacking Mysterio in the lead up to his rematch at the Money in the Bank pay @-@ per @-@ view in July , however he failed to regain the championship .

===== Various alliances and United States Champion ( 2010 ? 2012 ) =====

In late 2010 , Swagger began being accompanied to the ring by his mascot , the Swagger Soaring Eagle , who was portrayed by Chavo Guerrero . At TLC : Tables , Ladders and Chairs , Swagger competed in a triple threat ladder match for the Intercontinental Championship against Kofi Kingston and champion Dolph Ziggler , in which Ziggler retained . On the February 28 episode of Raw , Swagger was announced as Michael Cole 's trainer for his match at WrestleMania XXVII against Jerry Lawler . On the March 28 episode of Raw , Swagger faced Lawler in a singles match , which he won by disqualification after Lawler attacked him with a steel chair . At WrestleMania , Swagger receive a Stone Cold Stunner from the guest referee , Stone Cold Steve Austin when attempting to withdraw Cole from the match . Cole went on to win the match via disqualification . On April 26 , Swagger was drafted to the Raw brand as part of the 2011 supplemental draft . On May 1 at Extreme Rules , Swagger teamed with Cole to defeat Jerry Lawler and Jim Ross in a Country Whipping match . Swagger ended his partnership with Cole on the May 16 episode of Raw , after Cole insulted him .

Beginning on May 23 , Swagger feuded with Evan Bourne , with both men trading victories on several episodes of Raw . At Capitol Punishment , Bourne defeated Swagger to end the feud . Swagger competed in his second Money in the Bank ladder match at the Money in the Bank pay @-@ per @-@ view , however he was unsuccessful as the match was won by Alberto Del Rio .

On the August 15 episode of Raw , after defeating Alex Riley , Swagger suggested to Vickie Guerrero that she should manage multiple clients , in the vein of managers like Bobby Heenan and Freddie Blassie . The following week , Swagger had a " tryout " match , but was distracted by Guerrero arguing with Dolph Ziggler at ringside , and lost the match . Swagger and Ziggler continued to fight over Guerrero for the next few weeks , which led to a match being for Ziggler 's United States Championship at Night of Champions , also involving Riley and John Morrison . At the

pay @-@ per @-@ view , Swagger was unsuccessful in winning the title as Ziggler retained . On the September 19 episode of Raw , Guerrero agreed to manage Swagger . As a result , Swagger and Ziggler formed an alliance , with Swagger helping Ziggler retain his championship . At both the Hell in a Cell and Vengeance pay @-@ per @-@ views , Swagger and Ziggler unsuccessfully challenged Air Boom ( Evan Bourne and Kofi Kingston ) for the Tag Team Championship .

On the January 16 , 2012 , episode of Raw , Swagger won the United States Championship for the first time by defeating Zack Ryder . At Elimination Chamber , Swagger successfully defended his title against Justin Gabriel . On the February 27 episode of Raw , Swagger and Ziggler unsuccessfully challenged Primo and Epico for the Tag Team Championship in a Triple Threat tag team match , also involving Kofi Kingston and R @-@ Truth . On the March 5 episode of Raw , Swagger lost the United States Championship to Santino Marella . On the following episode of SmackDown , Swagger failed to regain the United States Championship in a steel cage match , after Marella escaped through the cage door . On the March 19 episode of Raw , Swagger was announced as a member of Team Johnny at Wrestlemania XXVIII . On the April 2 episode of Raw , Swagger and Ziggler unsuccessfully challenged Marella for the United States Championship in a triple threat match . In May , Swagger and Ziggler unsuccessfully challenged Kofi Kingston and R @-@ Truth for WWE Tag Team Championship , first at Over the Limit and second on the May 28 episode of Raw . On the June 11 episode of Raw , Swagger and Ziggler competed in a fatal four way elimination match for a number one contenders spot to the World Heavyweight Championship , however he was eliminated after Ziggler pinned him . The following week , Guerrero , finally tired of the bickering between Swagger and Ziggler , arranged for a match between them ; Ziggler won the match , thus ending their partnership .

On the June 25 episode of Raw , Swagger once again unsuccessfully challenged Santino Marella for the United States Championship . Following this loss , Swagger went on a three @-@ month losing streak against the likes of Tyson Kidd , Sheamus , Brodus Clay , and Ryback . After again losing to Sheamus on the September 3 episode of Raw , Swagger told Raw General Manager AJ Lee he would take " time off " .

== == The Real Americans ( 2013 ? 2014 ) == ==

On the February 1 , 2013 episode of SmackDown , Swagger returned , and demanded that SmackDown General Manager Booker T put him in the Elimination Chamber match at Elimination Chamber . Later on that night , Swagger made his in @-@ ring return by defeating Kofi Kingston . On the February 11 episode of Raw , Swagger debuted a new manager , Zeb Colter , a self @-@ proclaimed great American hero who strongly advocated anti @-@ immigration beliefs ; Swagger 's character was influenced by Colter to display similar traits . That same episode , Swagger defeated Zack Ryder to qualify for the Elimination Chamber match that would determine the number one contender for the World Heavyweight Championship which he also won after last eliminating Randy Orton .

On February 19 , Fox News and various right @-@ wing commentators including Glenn Beck claimed that Swagger and Colter 's characters were a mockery of the Tea Party movement meant to " demonize " the Tea Party . WWE responded to the criticism by stating that they were incorporating " current events into [ their ] storylines " to " create compelling and relevant content for [ their ] audience " and that " this storyline in no way represents WWE 's political point of view " . WWE followed by having Swagger and Colter break character during a video to invite Beck to appear on Raw while justifying that the storyline was designed to elicit a crowd response for the protagonist , Alberto Del Rio , and the antagonists , Swagger and Colter , while remaining within a PG rating , unlike several high @-@ rated scripted dramas that use murder and rape in their storylines . Beck rejected the invitation . On the March 18 episode of Raw , Swagger broke the ankle of Del Rio 's ring announcer Ricardo Rodriguez after Rodriguez tried to save Del Rio from Swagger 's vicious assault .

On April 7 at WrestleMania 29 , Swagger unsuccessfully challenged Del Rio for the World Heavyweight Championship . The following night on Raw , Swagger and Zeb Colter were defeated

by Del Rio in a Two @-@ on @-@ one handicap match after forcing Swagger to submit to the Cross Armbreaker . Immediately following , Dolph Ziggler cashed in his Money in the Bank briefcase on Del Rio to become the new World Heavyweight Champion . Swagger would then feud with both Del Rio and Ziggler over the World Heavyweight Championship , with Swagger defeating Ziggler in a non @-@ title match the following week and Del Rio attacking him afterwards . Swagger was originally booked to face Ziggler and Del Rio in three @-@ way ladder match for the World Heavyweight Championship at Extreme Rules , however , Ziggler would suffer a legitimate concussion at a SmackDown taping due to a kick from Swagger , thus removing their match from the card . As a result of Ziggler 's injury , Swagger instead would be booked to face Del Rio in a number one contender I Quit match at the pay @-@ per @-@ view on May 19 , which Del Rio won . In June , Swagger took a leave absence to undergo surgery on his hand , which sidelined him for the remainder of the month .

Swagger returned on the July 1 episode of Raw , accompanying Zeb Colter 's new client Antonio Cesaro to his match with Cody Rhodes . At the Money in the Bank pay @-@ per @-@ view , Swagger and Cesaro competed in the World Heavyweight Championship Money in the Bank ladder match , but were both unsuccessful as the match was won by Damien Sandow . The following night on Raw , Swagger and Cesaro , now billed as The Real Americans , teamed together for the first time , but ended up being defeated by The Usos . During the Night of Champions pre @-@ show , the Real Americans competed in a number one contender Tag Team Turmoil match for the WWE Tag Team Championship , in which they were the last team eliminated by The Prime Time Players ( Darren Young and Titus O 'Neil ) . Simultaneously , the Real Americans began a feud with the returning Santino Marella after he defeated both of them in singles competition . On October 6 at Battleground , the Real Americans defeated Marella and The Great Khali in a tag team match . The Real Americans moved onto feuding with Los Matadores , culminating in a tag team match on October 27 at Hell in a Cell , which Los Matadores won . The following night on Raw , The Real Americans defeated WWE Tag Team Champions Cody Rhodes and Goldust in a non @-@ title match . At Survivor Series , Swagger teamed with Cesaro , Roman Reigns , Dean Ambrose and Seth Rollins in a 5 on 5 traditional Survivor Series tag team match in which their team was victorious over Rey Mysterio , Cody Rhodes , Goldust and The Usos ' team . At TLC they also challenged for the WWE Tag Team Championship again in a losing effort in a fatal four way match also involving RybAxel and the team of Big Show and Rey Mysterio . Swagger would enter the 2014 Royal Rumble match at entrant # 7 but was eliminated by Kevin Nash . On the February 14 episode of SmackDown , Swagger became the # 1 Contender for the Intercontinental Championship after winning a Fatal 4 @-@ Way match , defeating Kofi Kingston , Rey Mysterio and Mark Henry . However , Swagger would advance to Elimination Chamber , where he would face the current Intercontinental Champion , Big E , and would lose the match .

During the pre @-@ show of WrestleMania XXX , the Real Americans were the final team eliminated during a fatal @-@ four @-@ way match for the WWE Tag Team Championship . Swagger blamed Cesaro for the loss and put Cesaro in the Patriot Lock before Colter demanded that the duo shake hands . Cesaro instead retaliated with a Cesaro Swing on Swagger . Later during the pay @-@ per @-@ view , Cesaro was a surprise entrant in the André the Giant Memorial Battle Royal , which he won by last eliminating Big Show by body slamming him out of the ring , which mirrored Hulk Hogan 's momentous body slam of André . Swagger retaliated by attacking Cesaro on the following Raw and then destroying the trophy , thus ending the stable .

== == Various feuds ( 2014 ? present ) == ==

Following the dissolution of their team , Swagger would feud with Cesaro , with Rob Van Dam also being drawn into the feud , with the three competing in a triple threat elimination match at Extreme Rules , which Cesaro won . On the May 5 episode of Raw , Swagger and Zeb Colter would begin to rant about the foreign superstars in WWE , before being interrupted by the debuting Adam Rose . Over the next month , Swagger would lose matches due to Rose causing a distraction by appearing at ringside with his " Rosebuds " . This would lead to a match on the June 2 episode of Raw , where

Swagger would be defeated by Rose . At the Money in the Bank pay @-@ per @-@ view , Swagger would compete in the Money in the Bank ladder match , which was won by Seth Rollins .

On the June 30 episode of Raw , Swagger turned face for the first time in WWE , after he and Colter would confront Rusev and Lana about them disrespecting America . This would lead to a number of matches between the two , with Swagger being defeated by Rusev at both Battleground and SummerSlam . On the December 1 episode of Raw , Swagger would find Colter beaten up in a corridor , with Rusev later admitting to the attack . At TLC : Tables , Ladders and Chairs , Swagger would challenge Rusev for the WWE United States Championship , in a losing effort and ending their feud .

Nearing the end of 2014 and beginning of 2015 , Swagger would spend most of his time competing on Main Event and Superstars . On January 25 , 2015 at Royal Rumble , Swagger competed in the Royal Rumble match , but was eliminated by Big Show . At WrestleMania 31 , Swagger participated in the 2nd Annual André the Giant Memorial Battle Royal , in which he was unsuccessful . Swagger then appeared on Main Event and Superstars , defeating the likes of Stardust , The Miz , Adam Rose and Heath Slater . After being constricted to Main Event and Superstars throughout all of 2015 , On the November 2 episode of Raw , Swagger encountered his former manager Zeb Colter , only to be interrupted by the returning Alberto Del Rio . This started a feud between the two , which culminated at TLC : Tables , Ladders and Chairs with Swagger challenging Del Rio for the WWE United States Championship in a Chairs match , which Del Rio won . At 2015 Tribute to the Troops , Swagger defeated Rusev by submission in a " Boot Camp " match .

On January 24 , 2016 at Royal Rumble , during the kick @-@ off show , Swagger teamed with Mark Henry in a winning effort against the teams of Darren Young and Damien Sandow , The Dudley Boyz and The Ascension . As a result of the win , Swagger qualified for the Royal Rumble match itself during the main show ; entering as the 24th entrant , only to be quickly eliminated by Brock Lesnar lasting only 29 seconds . At Roadblock , Swagger would be defeated by Chris Jericho . At WrestleMania 32 , Swagger would compete in the Andre The Giant Memorial Battle Royal , which was won by Baron Corbin . On the June 6 episode of Raw , Swagger faced long @-@ time rival Rusev in Swagger 's home state of Oklahoma in a losing effort via count @-@ out after he was shoved into Titus O 'Neil , who was on commentary , at the count of nine . After the match , Swagger attacked Rusev before leading the crowd in a " We the People " chant . On the July 4 episode of Raw , Swagger was part of the main @-@ event , where he teamed with " Team USA " , which consisted of himself , Big Show , Kane , Apollo Crews , Mark Henry , Zack Ryder and The Dudley Boyz ( Bubba Ray Dudley and D @-@ Von Dudley ) , in a 16 @-@ man elimination tag team match , in which their team was victorious over " The Multinational Alliance " , which consisted of Kevin Owens , Chris Jericho , Sami Zayn , Cesaro , Sheamus , Alberto Del Rio and The Lucha Dragons ( Kalisto and Sin Cara ) . On July 19 , at the 2016 WWE Draft , Swagger was drafted to Raw .

= = Personal life = =

Hager married Catalina White in December 2010 . The couple had their first child , son Knox Sterling , on October 17 , 2011 . On May 18 , 2015 , the couple had their second child , daughter Presley Pearl .

On February 19 , 2013 , Hager was arrested in Gulfport , Mississippi after a SmackDown taping . He was charged with driving under the influence and drug possession . Hager was released after the arrest and was ordered to appear in court on March 12 , 2013 . He was then scheduled to stand trial on June 25 , 2013 in Mississippi . The marijuana charge was dismissed after he was fined \$ 500 , and sentenced to six months probation with his two @-@ day jail sentence being suspended .

= = In wrestling = =

Finishing moves

Gutwrench falling powerbomb ? 2008 ? 2013 ; used rarely thereafter

Patriot Lock ( Ankle lock ) ? 2010 ? present

Red , White and Blue Thunder Bomb ( Spin @-@ out sit out powerbomb ) ? early 2008

Swagger Bomb ( Running corner slingshot splash ) ? used mostly as signature

Signature moves

Abdominal stretch

Double chickenwing

Biel throw

Big boot

Chop block

Double leg takedown

Football tackle to the opponent 's knees

Leg drop

Multiple suplex variations

German

Gutwrench

Northern Lights

Side belly to belly , sometimes from the second rope

Vertical

Wheelbarrow

Oklahoma Stampede

Running knee lift to a cornered opponent

Shoulderbreaker

Managers

The Swagger Soaring Eagle

Vickie Guerrero

Zeb Colter

Nicknames

" The All @-@ American American "

" Mr. Money in the Bank "

" A Real American "

Entrance themes

" Get Down on Your Knees " by Age Against the Machine ( November 4 , 2008 ? February 15 , 2013 )

" Patriot " by CFO \$ ( February 17 , 2013 ? present )

= = Championships and accomplishments = =

= = = Amateur wrestling = = =

National Collegiate Athletic Association

University of Oklahoma single @-@ season record for most pins in the 285 pounds ( 129 kg ) weight class ( 30 )

= = = Professional wrestling = = =

Florida Championship Wrestling

FCW Florida Heavyweight Championship ( 1 time , inaugural )

FCW Southern Heavyweight Championship ( 1 time , final )

FCW Florida Heavyweight Championship Inaugural Battle Royale

Pro Wrestling Illustrated

PWI ranked him # 18 of the top 500 singles wrestlers in the PWI 500 in 2009

World Wrestling Entertainment / WWE

ECW Championship ( 1 time )

World Heavyweight Championship ( 1 time )

WWE United States Championship ( 1 time )

Money in the Bank ( 2010 )

Bragging Rights Trophy ( 2010 ) ? as a member of Team SmackDown ( with Big Show , Rey Mysterio , Alberto Del Rio , Edge , Tyler Reks , and Kofi Kingston )