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# Unicyclist loving the high life

Constance Bay boy, 9, rides off with 7 medals

# Graham Hughes, Ottawa Citizen

Published: Thursday, August 09, 2007

Nine years ago, a family friend gave baby Jordan Fremont a unique welcome-to-theworld gift: A unicycle.

Three years ago, Jordan taught himself to ride. And how.

His efforts paid off in the last week in July at The North American Unicycling Championships and Convention in the Ann

Championships and Convention in the Ann Arbor, Michigan area, where the youngster picked up seven medals - two gold, four silver and a bronze - for his riding skills. The annual week-long event is hosted by the Unicycling Society of America, Inc.





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Jordan Fremont has been riding a unicycle for three years and won a bunch of medals at International competition in Ann Arbour Michigan--for Graham Hughes CITY story.

OTTAWA CITIZEN PHOTO by PAT MCGRATH (CANWEST NEWS SERVICES)

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"I liked the gold for mountain unicycle the best," he said yesterday at his Constance Bay home. "I like going through mountain trails because it's fun. Like going up steep trails and over roots, seeing things in the forest."

Mountain unicycling - MUni - covers the same terrain as a traditional mountain bike, using specially designed unicycles equipped with large, knobby tires.

"I can also ride a five-foot-high unicycle, which is called a Giraffe," Jordan said. "And I ride a trials unicycle, which is meant for jumps off pieces of wood, jumping on top of things and riding off things."

He used his trials unicycle in the track racing events "because I don't have a street unicycle."

Despite that, he picked up gold in the 100metre event and silvers in 400 and 800 metres, another for overall standing, and the fourth as the anchor man in the four-man relay race.

His bronze came in the slow forward event, which involves riding a narrow plank as slowly as possible without stopping - or falling off.

When he's not riding, Jordan plays defence for the West Carleton Talons premier U-10 soccer team.

Unicycling is apparently a family fixation for the Fremonts.

Jordan's seven-year-old sister, Deena, won a bronze in the championships' 800-metre race. She's been riding for about a year and a half.

And his dad, John, is a one-time professional juggler who used unicycles in his act.

Jordan's mother, Heidi, is ready to roll in on the action. She's waiting for her unicycle to be built by Darren Bedford - the man who gave Jordan his first wheel - who runs a unicycle business in Toronto.

John Fremont said although it's a long haul from Constance Bay, the family hopes to attend next year's convention, which he believes will be held in South Dakota.

And if, as rumour has it, the 2009 North American Unicycling Championships and Convention is held in Toronto, John Fremont said the family "absolutely" will be there.

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