

# Davis Family

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## Bethe Davis is kicking butt at UAF!

by Mike Davis

As most everyone knows by now, Bethe is now in her second year at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. I always new she was smarter than the average bear... but wait until you hear the whole story.

Part of the degree requirements at UAF are 2 units of science, either a depth course (2 classes that build on each other), or a breadth course (2 classes that broaden your areas studied). Bethe decided on a biology depth program. "Why?", I asked... "Because they had a lab at the time I wanted..." was Bethe's answer. Well little did she know that this class was designed to wash out any student who thought they were interested in Biology, but doesn't have what it takes to make it (read; tremendous amounts of work!). In her classic style Bethe is not only proving a business major can make it in biology, but she's currently 3rd in the class out of almost 200! And I wouldn't be at all surprised if she finished the semester in 2nd, if not 1st.

Bethe's other classes may not be nearly as notable, but rest assured, if she is not top of her class in all of them, she has turned out a very respectable showing.

Last semester Bethe finished with a perfect 4.0, which of course placed her on both the Dean's and the Chancellor's lists.

This week is finals week... everyone please think of Bethe and wish her luck.

## Elora Davis, trend setter or intellectual?

by Mike Davis

It came as no surprise to those of us who know her well. Elora Davis with her innate sense of style has proven to be a trend setter among young girls at Weller Elementary School. Never bowing to the current fad, Elora proudly displayed her own patented style of wearing headbands... or maybe it should have been patented. Slowly as her 2 years at Weller have progressed the headband



*OK, so this picture is a little old... that's still a mighty fine looking family though!*

And don't forget about the 3 tortured souls who live with her either! We feel her pain too. ?

craze has taken over! First we noticed her best friend began wearing one, then it was several other girls in her class. Now when you visit Weller just about every girl with hair long enough to hold back is wearing one. Has Elora become jaded due to her obvious global influence? Not at all, when she sees something she likes she tries it. It doesn't  
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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ? *Bethe makes both the Dean's and Chancellor's lists at UAF.*
- ? *Gavin moves up to Junior High.*
- ? *Mike competes at Alaska State R/C Championships.*
- ? *Elora a big hit, both at school and home.*
- ? *Mike's mom Ann is going to spend Christmas with us this year.*
- ? *After being turned away at the closed down ski slope due to -20F temperatures, we were surprised to see 500° on the base time & temp sign.*
- ? *We're currently enjoying some tropical weather after temps down to -40°, it's up to -10° today!*

## Manhood around the corner.

by Mike Davis

Gavin made a huge move in a young man's life this year... Junior High. Lockers, girls, sports, girls, dances, girls, different types of classes, oh, did I mention that girls aren't gross anymore?

This year Gavin actually had the opportunity to choose some of the classes he takes. As always, he really enjoys science and social studies. It seems that somewhere last year he leap-frogged right past my math abilities as well. Sure is a good thing that mom is blazing through her math classes at UAF. I've gone from being the person everyone asked to solve their math problems, to having a slightly lost look on my face!

Gavin was on the JH cross country ski team this year also. I haven't actually skied with him yet this year, but I fear I may have lost ground there as well. On the down hill slopes I think my lessons for Gavin are all but over. Not only is he keeping up with me on the steepest parts, but he's soaring higher and farther off the jumps. I attribute this to his lack of having experienced a broken bone.

Gavin, like me, is eagerly awaiting more snow for another purpose... snow machining! Having mastered the

challenges of learning to handle a snow machine last year, Gavin is ready to go break some trails. Mother nature however isn't cooperating. We've had snow on the ground for 2 months now, but there's less than 8 inches. We need about twice that much before we can take a snow machine off the beaten path.

Bethe, who handles the allowance department, has been a little lax in her duties lately... well alright, as close as we can figure, we owe Gavin about \$200 in allowance! I asked Gavin recently if he wanted to go shopping for something rather expensive, since he had so much allowance saved up. His response gave me pause... No, I think I'd like to put it in a savings account. OK, what are you saving for? I asked. "A car" he responded! What have I gotten my self into now? I'm not sure I'm ready for this... somebody help me please! ?

It doesn't seem long ago that Bethe was referring to her big belly as lumpy... soon that lump is going to be called Mister by someone, and he's going to say, "Mr. Davis?, that's not me, that's my dad".

*"If you think these stories are biased... tough! I wrote them, and this is what I think." Mike Davis*

## Work, work, work... How I love to play!

by Mike Davis

I had a pretty easy year at work this year... only put in 440 hours of overtime! Really, that's over 100 less than last year. Most of this summer I was on a 4 on 3 off / 3 on 4 off rotation. All those days off gave me lots of time to spend doing one of my favorite things... flying radio controlled airplanes. I flew so much this summer that I decided I was ready for a little competition. Never mind that I didn't have the right kind of airplane, or that I had never even practiced the required routines. So we loaded up the camper and headed south to beautiful Palmer Alaska to the Alaska State R/C Championships. Being a first time competitor there were only about 10 guys in my class... but they all had custom pattern style aircraft. Hav-

ing flown a "real" pattern aircraft before, I didn't really think I had much of a chance in the competition. Heck I was there to have fun anyway, so when I blew one of my maneuvers, I turned to the judges and said "I bet you didn't know you could do a stall turn like that did you?" Not really paying that much attention to the other competitors I was really surprised when the awards were given out... I got 3rd place! I actually earned points towards national placement! Wow... look out Patty Wagstaff, here I come! This spring I will be starting on a different type of aviation project... I'm building my own 6 seat airplane!

## Elora, continued

by Mike Davis

matter at all whether anyone else is doing it or not.

But don't think that this young trend setter is superficial. By all reports her academic work is as worthy of notice as her social impact. Always a favorite with her teachers Elora "loves" school. Her continued performance and enthusiasm is an elixir to a parent.

Elora has also joined the Weller cross country ski club, and is working hard learning to downhill ski. It's wonderful to see her getting involved with more "physical" activities than just playing dress up. We are finding more and more activities the whole family can participate in, and just having a ball.



*This airplane is so much fun to fly! I just never thought I could place in a state wide competition flying precision aerobatics with it. I fly lot's of aerobatics with it... just not precision!*