


weather report

56°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 6:39 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:39 a.m.

• Sunset, 6:38 p.m.

Midday Conditions

• Soil Temperature 65 degrees

• Humidity 54 percent

• Sky partly cloudy

• Winds north 10 m.p.h.

• Barometer 30.05 inches and rising

• Record High 90° (1938)

• Record Low 22° (1942)

Last 24 Hours*

High 68°

Low 48°

Precipitation .03

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: partly cloudy, low lower 40s, winds south 10 m.p.h. Tomorrow: mostly sunny, high 75-80, low lower 40s, winds south 10-20 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast


Saturday: mostly sunny with slight chance of rain at night, high upper 60s, low near 40. Sunday: partly cloudy, high mid 70s. Monday: partly cloudy, high mid 70s, low mid 40s. Tuesday: partly cloudy with a chance of rain, high mid 70s, low mid 40s.

(National Weather Service)

Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.

* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets



Noon

Wheat — \$4.37 bushel

Posted county price — \$4.29

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Corn — \$2.55 bushel

Posted county price — \$2.35

Loan deficiency payment — 00¢

Milo — \$2.29 bushel

Soybeans — \$5.03 bushel

Posted county price — \$5.02

Loan deficiency payment — 0¢

Millet — \$13.00 hundredweight

Sunflowers

Oil current crop — \$10.75 cwt.

Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢

Confection current — \$17/\$7 cwt.

Pinto beans — \$18

(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon wire



Late news from the Associated Press

1 p.m.

Isadore lashing Gulf Coast

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Tropical Storm Isadore blew ashore early today with near hurricane-force wind and rain that flooded New Orleans streets with water up to car windshields.

About 140,000 homes and businesses in Louisiana and Mississippi lost power as the loosely organized storm worked its way inland with sustained winds up to 65 mph.

Tornado warnings and flood watches were posted from the central Louisiana coast to the Florida panhandle.

At 9 a.m. mounitian time, Isadore's ill-defined center was near Poplarville, Miss., moving erratically north-northeast about 14 mph. The storm had fallen from hurricane strength, defined as sustained winds of at least 74 mph, since hitting Mexico over the weekend.

Leroy Krafft's 1956 Chevy wins show



Leroy Krafft provided a picture of his 1956 Chevy Belaire (top), which won “coolest cruiser” at a show in Ot-tawa this weekend. Krafft (above, left) showed off the trophy he won. The steering wheel and most of the dash-board (right) were replaced with original parts.



By Doug Stephens
The Goodland Daily News

After five years of evenings and winter days rebuilding and refurbishing his 1956 Chevy Belaire, Leroy Krafft is ready to show it off at the Early Iron Rod Run this weekend during the Flatlander Festival.

It wasn't easy work making the car presentable. When he bought it at a farm auction, for more money than he is willing to admit, it wasn't much more than a broken down metal frame with wheels.

"It was a rust bucket," the farmer said. "I spent a lot of time, and a friend of mine put in a lot of time, to get it where it is now."

The friend is Daryl Hoss, an auto body repair instructor at the Northwest Kansas Technical College. Krafft said Hoss did the body work, while he focused on refurbishing the inside and getting the two-door hard top Chevy to run.

Working on the mechanical parts took two years, Krafft said, then he turned it over to Hoss. The instructor smoothed out the car's lines and applied the colors Krafft picked— cherry red trimmed by a brownish-gold. He says he got the idea for the color scheme when passing two different colored cars on a car lot.

"I saw the two cars, and it hit me that those two colors would go really well together," he said. "I think the car proves it right."

Other car people seem to agree. This past weekend his daughters talked him into entering the Ol' Marais River Run in Ottawa, about 60 miles southwest of Topeka. His car won the award for "coolest cruiser," out of 1,000 entries. It was the first show he's entered with the car.

"It was great. I don't know how many

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Rod Run Saturday

Up to 300 classic and vintage vehicles will be on display Saturday and Sunday during the 16th annual Early Iron Rod Run to highlight the Flatlander Fall Festival.

"If it's got four wheels — bring it," is a motto used by the Early Iron club, and past entries have ranged from original Ford Model-Ts to 1970s muscle cars, custom pickups to 1930s hot rods.

The car show began in the late 1960s, but changed to its current name when it was integrated into the street festival in 1987, moving to Main Avenue.

The show has grown in the past 16 years, from 38 cars in 1986 at Steever Park to 297 last year on Main. About 300 are expected this year from all over Kansas and surrounding states. Organizers call it the biggest show of its kind between Salina and Denver.

A \$20 registration fee includes a dash plaque, breakfast and a dinner and dance at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall on Saturday night. Car owners will get a "goodie bag" and can win door prizes and a Chevy 350 engine and turbo transmission.

Registration is from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at Central Elementary School on Main. A fun walk will be held Sunday before an awards ceremony, when the large prizes, and Top 25 and other awards will be given.

For more information, or to donate prizes, contact club president Scott Lockhart at (785) 899-5137.

Kear fifth grand marshal

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Daily News

For over 40 years he ran Kears Machine and Welding shop at 1301 Syracuse, and Maurice Kear, 83, can tell you about every car and motorcycle he ever owned.

Saturday Kear will be the Grand Marshal for the Eighth Annual Northwest Kansas Bike Show, and will lead the parade at 8 p.m. down Main Street. Kear is the fifth grand marshal and organizer Casey Quint said this is the first year the motorcycles will parade.

Kear said they may have to wake him up because the parade time is getting pretty late for him.

Looking back at the motorcycles he has owned Kear remembers buying his first one at age 15. He bought it for \$3 and sold it for \$4.

He said it was a Harley-Davidson with an Indian engine, and he heard that the guy who bought it got it working pretty good.

"It is a fair weather machine," Kears father Allen said about motorcycles.

"My Harley was never in really good shape," Maurice Kear admits. "I never rode a bike for more than 1,000 miles. There was always something wrong with them. That is except the last one I had."

Over the years Kear remembers owning a 1923 Indian, which shook itself apart; a 1935 Indian, a Harley he thought was about a 1935; a 1940 Indian which had the first skirted fenders; a 1952 Harley and another Harley a few year later. The 1952 Harley and the other Harley he sold to a couple of guys from California for \$3,500.

In 2000 he bought a 1995 Harley Sportster which he thought was one of the best bikes he ever owned, but he found he could not ride it because of his health.

"I couldn't ride it," he said. "I sold it to Dean Topliff and expect it will be in the bike show Saturday. It was a beautiful bike."

Besides the bikes Kear remembers some of the cars he has owned starting with a 1931 Dodge he had while working at a shipyard in California in 1943. Kear says he learned to weld at the shipyard and became a qualified Navy plate welder in the 20 months he was in California.

He left the shipyard because he received a notice from the draft board and

Bikes to parade on Saturday

The Eighth Annual Northwest Kansas Bike Show will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday at the north end of Main, and will feature more than 100 motorcycles in 28 classes and motorcycle contests.

Registration, \$15 per couple, will be from 9 a.m. to noon and the bikes will be judged between noon and 2:30 p.m. Motorcycle agility and accuracy

headed back to Goodland.

"You had to have gas ration cards, and I had worked out exactly how many miles per gallon the Dodge would get," Kear said.

"In Wyoming I pushed a guy and his cart to a station, and they filled up the gas tank which really helped."

Kear remembers the Dodge had a speedometer which went to 90 mph.

"It would really do that speed," Kear said. "That was a really good car."

When he returned to Goodland he reported to the draft board, and found himself in the Army in May 1944. He was sent to France, where he was assigned to the 765th Railway Shop as a welder.

He was there for about six months working on engines and railcars before being sent back to the states. He was then sent to Little Rock, Ark., where he was assigned to the regimental surgeon. He was discharged on June 6, 1946 at Fort Sam Houston in Texas.

"I taught myself to type," Kear said, "and I was pretty fast at that time. I don't do much any more."

Kear was born Feb. 9, 1919 in a sod house 13 miles south of Brewster in Thomas County. He mother was Ruby Violet (Rice) Kear.

He grew up living on several family farms and attending school in Colby and Goodland's Grant Junior High. He attended the Brownville School, which used to stand south of Brewster, for one week, but didn't like it and then went to Colby.

Kear received his certificate for

completing eight grade from Grant Junior High in 1933, and that was all the formal education he had.

He was driving down the road in 1938 when he spotted a couple of girls walking out in the rain, and

stopped to pick them up. One of the girls was Jessie Powell, whom he married Nov. 24, 1939 in Sharon Springs.

They had two sons, Terrance Allan, who died at age 17, and Lonny who was born June 30, 1944, while Maurice was in boot camp. Lonny died Aug. 5, 2000. He owned and operate Lonny's Quality Auto Body for 25 years.

After being discharged in Texas, Kear drove a 1942 Plymouth convertible back to Little Rock to pick up his wife.

They headed to Goodland, where he went to work for Newton Brothers for about two years, and then tried his hand being a brakeman for the Rock Island.

Maurice and his father started the machine and welding shop in 1957. His father died in 1976.

After 40 years in the shop he sold it to Wade Barnett.

His wife did not have the same thrill about motorcycles.

"I rode only one time," Jesse said. "It shook me too bad, and I was frightened. That was all I ever rode."

They have been married 63 years and he said she has put up with him all those years. Jessie said, "He has put up with me too."

Kear's grandson is carrying on the motorcycle tradition as a Harley owner.



Maurice Kear with his 1931 Dodge that he owned when he went into the U.S. Army in 1944.



The 1952 Harley Kear had for many years, and sold to a couple of guys from California for \$3,500 along with another Harley he had. Kear said this was a classy bike and was painted red with saddle bags.