STURGIS

1 x 60

Every year, like barbarian invaders, half a million bikers swarm to the small town of Sturgis...

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STURGIS

1 x 60
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It's one of the wildest weeks in America. Every year, like barbarian invaders, half a million bikers swarm to the small town of Sturgis, South Dakota. Join the National Geographic Channel for **Sturgis:** *Hell on Wheels*, learn about the thrills of biker culture, and witness first-hand one of the country's longest-running motorcycle rallies. For 358 days of the year, Sturgis, South Dakota is as quiet as a ghost town. But in August, the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally hits town.

Half a million bikers descend from every corner of the country, wearing the miles they have ridden like a badge. It's one of the wildest weeks in America. Every year, like barbarian invaders, half a million bikers swarm to the small town of Sturgis. They've returned for over six decades, reliving an annual ritual of metal, and celebrating life on the bike.

STURGIS — MORE THAN A TOWN:

- The Sturgis Motorcycle Rally was founded on August 14, 1938 by the Jackpine Gypsies Motorcycle Club who still own and operate the tracks, hillclimb, and field areas that the rally is concentrated around. The first rally lasted two days and was focused on racing and stunts.

- The founder is generally considered to be Clarence "Pappy" Hoel who is still honored in various ways by the crowd at Sturgis.

- The Sturgis Rally has been held every year, with exceptions during World War II.

- Attendance was estimated at 514,951 in 2004, and 525,250 in 2005.

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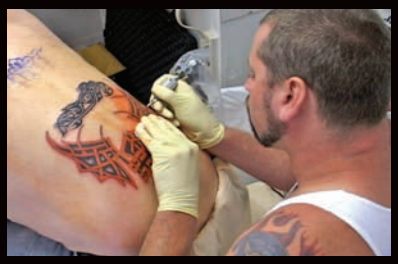

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