

He's blue for an MR2

■ Gautier man
collects an array
of sports cars

By LICI BEVERIDGE

Mississippi Press Staff

GAUTIER — Now that he's older, losing his hair, will he still be sending you a Valentine, birthday greeting bottle of wine?

For one 64-year-old, the answer might be, "No, but how about an MR2?"

Donald Chalfant of Gautier, also known as the Strawberry Kid, a few years ago developed a passion for the snazzy Toyota sports car.

Once he discovered a love for the car, he took his passion on the road, buying one for himself and one for his then-fiancée.

But getting older wasn't Chalfant's inspiration for his new love.



Special to The Mississippi Press

WOOD YOU? — The Strawberry Kid's sense of humor is well-grounded as he attends a International MR2 club meet. The wooden shoes he is wearing are a gift from a club member who lives in The Netherlands who dared him to wear them at a club event.

"I got my first MR2 after the death of my mother, who I was nursing," Chalfant said.



Special to The Mississippi Press

CROWDED DRIVEWAY — Donald Chalfant, 64, of Gautier, owns a fleet of Toyota MR2s. Pictured are "Cece," "Phil," "Chase," and "Cody."