

"Driver of Year Award Result of Heroism," *Mason City (Iowa) Globe-Gazette*, 24 Jan 1949, p. 1, col. 2.



DOYLE O'REAR

Driver of Year Award Result of Heroism

Des Moines, (AP)—Doyle O'Rear, 34, of Iowa City was named Monday as the state's "driver of the year" by the Iowa Motor Truck association.

He will be Iowa's candidate for national "driver of the year" honors.

O'Rear, who has an 8-year record of 550,000 miles of driving without an accident, was credited with saving 4 lives after an accident last April near Grinnell.

John Gillespie, association secretary, said 4 factors figured in O'Rear's selection. They were:

Heroism—O'Rear risked his life to rescue 4 persons from 2 burning and wrecked cars on highway 6 near Grinnell last April.

Safe driving—In 8 years of over-the-road driving for Watson Brothers Transportation company, the Iowa City man has never had an "accountable" accident. He has never been charged with a traffic violation.

Dependability—A Watson company official said "You can set your watch by his departure and arrival times."

Personal character — Employers described O'Rear as "the highest type." He is married and has 2 children, Nelson, 12, and Lyda, 10.

The family lived in Omaha before coming here 6 years ago.