

## Pictures from the "Beatrice Western Open" at Butler National Golf Club



### OSCAR WINS THE "OSCAR"

Oscar Miles, superintendent at Butler National Golf Club in Oak Brook was recently honored with the Midwest Association's prestigious "Charles Bartlett Award."

The award is in memory of Charles Bartlett, hall of fame golf writer for the Chicago Tribune. Bartlett was sympathetic with the hassle of golf course superintendents; coping with the whims of club members and mother nature. Superintendents MUST delegate the mowing chores, and be more visible and listened to by the golfers. Writing magazine articles and some public speaking engagements can only help the greenkeepers stature.

Since the Bartlett Award inception in 1967, its winners have included Paul Voykin, Oscar Miles, Norm Kramer, Ray Gerber, Bob Williams, Julius Albaugh, and Ken Zanzig.

Considering the most recent Western Open Championships at Butler National, winners names like Verplank, Wiebring, and Benepe may soon be forgotten, but Oscar is the name on everyone's tongue. In 1987 mother nature tried, but failed, to wash out the event. Television cameras showed grounds crew with squeegees pushing silt back into Salt Creek. Helicopters were flown in to increase evaporation. "Water Hogs" were imported from Florida to soak up surface water. Play was resumed.

Never has a local superintendent held press conferences, been quoted daily in all the newspapers, and had prime time television coverage keeping the golf world aware of course conditions and the plight of a dedicated superintendent.

In less than one year, the touring professionals claimed Butler National is the finest conditioned golf course they have played on.

We, the Midwest members, congratulate and thank you Oscar for the way you handled the media and promoted our profession. Charlie Bartlett would be very proud of you.

Dudley Smith,  
Chairman, Bartlett Award

