

**I Took this photo a couple of years ago as I was going west on US 30 and heard the scanner come to life with the crew calling in an emergency on account of hitting a vehicle.**

**The eastbound grain train was approaching B Avenue (MP 244.5) just east of Ralston, Iowa when this car apparently pulled out in front of the train as it neared the crossing. Needless to say, the driver did not survive.**

**I arrived on the scene before the fire trucks, but the small 10 lb extinguisher I carry was no match for the flames seen in the photo. The conductor was pretty shaken up, but there was nothing he could have done to prevent this from happening.**

**The moral of the story is that "you never beat the train!"**

**Photo by Dana Grefe**

