

# Their Trail Is Lonesome Now

"What have I to be thankful for on Thanksgiving?" Michael Saddy, jr., 13, asked his mother. "Someone took away the only thing I've ever loved."

The boy had just said good-by to his horse. For a few days after Mike's buckskin and his sister's Shetland pony were struck by a hit and run driver last Saturday, the veterinarian had hoped to save the horse, but the injuries were too serious.

Until the accident, each of the four children of Mr. and

Mrs. Michael Saddy, 17916 W. Woods Road dr., Muskego, had his own horse to ride, feed, groom and talk to. Now Mike and 11 year old Cathy have lost their pets.

"These horses were more than pets to the children," Mrs. Saddy said. "They were friends. When my son went to the barn to say good-by to Bucky Beaver, he threw his arms around the horse's neck and sobbed, 'I love you, I love you.'"

"How can we teach our children to grow up honest

and hard working when an adult doesn't have the decency to stop and see what damage he did or at least call to say he's sorry?"

Mike had been riding his quarter horse and Cathy was on the pony, Flicka. About dusk, they decided to lead the animals home, to give them a chance to cool off. Mrs. Saddy said they were in a field next to W. Woods Road dr. near their home when they saw a car approaching.

"All of-a sudden, it started

off the road toward them," she said. "Mike screamed at Cathy to run. When she looked up and saw the headlights, she froze.

"Mike let go of his horse and pushed her. Just then the car hit the pony Cathy was leading. It threw the pony 25 feet and then the car hit the big horse."

## Car Keeps Going

Muskego police said that after striking the two animals, the eastbound car veered across the road into a plowed field, continued for another 200 feet, swung back onto the pavement and kept going.

"Mike ran to the nearest house for help, leaving his sister with the horses," Mrs. Saddy said. "She was left holding the horse that was cut and bleeding and the pony was dying on the ground in front of her.

"Neighbors called us. My husband went right away and I called the police and vet."

Patrolman Kenneth Czisny of the Muskego police responded to the call. The pony was dying and in pain. He used his revolver. Mike's horse was taken home. Later, it also had to be destroyed.

The children described the hit and run car as an old station wagon. Muskego police got a more detailed description by checking the chrome strips and rear window that were left along the road, along with glass that apparently came from a broken windshield. It was a 1959 blue four door Chevrolet station wagon, they said.

## Children's Sacrifices

Mrs. Saddy said the children "do without many things to feed these horses" and her husband "works two jobs to help take care of the horses because they give the children such a sense of responsibility."

Saddy is a steamfitter at the Ladish Co., Cudahy. He also drives a gravel truck part time. The other two children are Randolph, 12, whose horse is called Jubilee, and David, 9, who owns a Shetland pony, Brownie.

The children have entered their animals in horse shows and won ribbons with them. Bucky Beaver was entered in game and halter events, Mrs. Saddy said, and Flicka had beaten full sized horses at barrel racing — "That pony ran like the wind."

"Our only hope of replacing these horses," she said, "is to find the person that struck them.

"I wish he was here at night to hear my girl crying in her sleep."



—Journal Photo

A joyless Thanksgiving was faced by the children of the Michael Saddy family. The children are Michael (standing left), 13; Randy, 12; David (kneeling), 9, and Cathy, 11.