

Crash Kills Pedestrian, Cop; 3 Hurt

A policeman and a pedestrian were killed and three other persons injured Sunday when a car he chased by police crashed at 106th street and Ewing avenue.



Dead were Policeman Melvin Gossmeier, 33, of 412 W. 103d pl., and Albert Eiermann, 50, of 10605 Green Bay av., the pedestrian.

In custody was Larry Benford, 22, of 1355 Marshall ct., Gary, the driver of the auto.

Chases Motorist

Police said Benford's auto struck the rear of a car driven by William Lynch, 10110 May st., at 3400 E. 106th st., damaging a fender. Lynch began chasing Benford's auto in 106th street. Presently Policeman Clyde Hughes of the accident investigation unit joined in the chase.

At 106th street and Ewing avenue, Benford's auto went out of control and struck Gossmeier, who was on a three wheeled motorcycle. Careening across the intersection, the auto then struck Eiermann. His body was hurled 70 feet and struck Miss Elaine Sundin, 19, of 10715 Wallace st.

Miss Sundin suffered hip and head cuts and was in good condition in South Chicago hospital.

Dies in Hospital

Gossmeier died in the hospital shortly after the accident. Appointed to the police department on Sept. 1, 1956, he had received 59 creditable mentions during his career.

Benford's car ended up against a pole. He and a passenger in his auto, Fred Collins, 24, of 2442 Monroe st., Gary, were treated in the hospital for cuts and bruises. Benford, taken to County hospital, is to be charged with reckless homicide.