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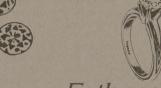
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By SARAH OATES

Page 2C/The Battalion/Monday, August 27, 1984

Campus police A

a 'dual agenc

Yes, in keeping with popular belief, the University Police devote a lot of time to writing tickets and arranging to tow illegally parked cars. But that's only a fraction of their

duties. "A lot of people think we're only here to enforce the parking regula-tions," said Mike Ragan, assistant chief of the University Police Department.

"They forget that we're here to enforce the law. A lot of them don't realize that we make arrests.

Ragan described the department as "a dual agency — part law enforcement and part service."

The service aspect is most visible to the Texas A&M University community. Officers often spend their days patrolling the campus, jumpstarting cars, rescuing students who have locked their keys in their cars and doing building checks.

This may seem like quiet, even dull work, but the department wants to keep it that way.

We do emphasize service," said Bob Wiatt, director of security and traffic for the University Police Department, "butlaw enforcement gets the biggest play.'

We have a sort of ambiguous ap-pearance. It depends on who you talk to. If that person has been the guys. If it's law enforcement, we're the bad guys.'

The Department's service record is impressive. Since September 1983 the summer. Wiatt said its officers have made 40,000 building security checks and answered 1400 calls to assist motorists.

to escort people to their cars or parking rules as motory

dorms. In the past year, these escorts were provided

Violent crime is low at six floo A&M. No rapes, murders beries have been reported in and co for stu

few years. But property the marily as a result of carelesses a big problem.

"In this day and age this on nity is no different from a should

Wiatt said. From September 1983 b 1984, \$290,237 worth of pro-was stolen at Texas A&M.R.

the recovery rate for stolen pro is about 35 percent. University Police Department ficials agree that late reports the circ thefts hampers recovery of

"Delayed reporting is total less," Wiatt said.

Officers are available to dorm residents and student zations about security an awareness.

Wiatt, who speaks to all in faculty and freshmen in the said he also is available to

The department, which ees 48 certified police office 14 parking patrol officers, a detective bureau to conduct investigations and serve arr

The parking patrol offices parking tickets and arrange of for illegally parked cars.

The department rea cracked down on bicycle to lations, issuing an average ets per month since the common violations made clists are ignoring stop sign 400 calls to assist motorists. stopping for pedestrans
Officers also are available at night are subject to the same

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