Sheriff's mounted patrol begins park surveillance

Mounted patrols have been added to the security force at Independ enjece Oaks, Oakland County's largest park, naor Clarkston. Since the Memorial Day weekend, two volunteers from the county sheriffs reserve officer force have been patrolling the park on Sundays. The county building and park security force also patrols the parks in marked cars. "It's a tremendous public relations tool," said parks' manager Eric Reickel of the mounted patrols. "The people enjoy it. The kids enjoy it."

Reickel said the mounted patrols have been added because of anticipated larger orowds in the county

orowds in the county parks.

The volunteer mount-ded reserve officers "were looking for an assignment." Reickel said. The extra patrols and recreation commission anything, he added. "The horseback patrols may be added next year in the county's other large parks.



Patrolman Thomas Caudell of Southfield is one of the new members of the mounted division in county parks, as Karen Craven (right) and her daughter, Christine, discover

Summer stars shine brighter

In July, the night side of the earth faces the summertime constellations where three bright stars appear just after dark.

All three — Arcturus, Vega and Antares — are larger and brighter than the sun would be lif were as far from us as any of the three stars.

"Shining brightly just west of the overhead point, or zenith, in the constellation of Bootes is the yellowered star Arcturus," asyas Richard Teske, University of Michigan astronomica. Now 36 light years away from the earth, Arcturus is traveling at "a fast pace by astronomical standards. The star is driftling in a southwesterly direction with a speed that will carry it across the key a distance equal to half the width of the full moon in 400 years," he explains.

Rusty in color because it is slightly cooler than the sun, Arcturus is 20 times larger and 100 times brightler. Teske says astronomers refer to stars of this size as "giants."

"Arcturus makes a fine sight in the night sky," he says. But if we were to put our sun in its place, the sun would seem very faint and would be difficult to pick out from among other dim stars."

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THE THIRD bright star, low in the southern sky, is ruddy Antares, the heart of the constellation of the Scorpio, he continues. "A star much cooler than the sun, Antares is nearly 6,000 times brigher.



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