

Wayne Kearsley does a wheel aligument at Georgetown Pontlac.

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"If your car is four years old, replace the hoses. No matter how they look."



John, (far right) of Georgetown Auto Glass lends a helping hand to Louis and Mike of Automaster Transmissions—the two businesses operate out of the same location with advan-

The romance of rag tops

. Cruising down a country road on warm summer night with the top down is one appeal of the convertible.

Convertibles all but disappeared from the auto scene in the mid '70s as carmarkers foresaw a threat of a roll-over-protection safety standard that would have made convertibles unattractive and unappealing to buyers. When the regulation did not materialize, convertible versions of the new body styles already had been phased out of the carmakers' plans.



today's convertibles. Check out these features when shopping. Top durability has been greatly improved by modern materials that make the old "rag top" nickname inappropriate. With minimal care and normal wear and tear, top life of eight years or more can be realized.

vertible's top mechanism, the back seat is

narrower than that of a sedan. In addition,

the rear-seat back often is moved forward.

and made more upright, while the rear-seat

cusion is shorter, front to rear. Rear-seat

side windows are frequently not offered in

Plastic rear windwos in convertibles tend to discolor eventually and need to be replaced periodically. A two-year life for these windows is not unusual in cars that always are parked outdoors. A zip-open rear window can be replaced more easily than an integral window. Glass rear windows are fitted in some convertibles. They are more desirable than plastic. Ice scrapers and automatic car washes can damage plastic rear windows.

Sooner or later, when you own a convertible, you get caught in the rain with the top down. On the highway where stops are infrequent, the best recommendation sometimes is to keep driving. If you choose your speed wisely, the air passing over the windshield will keep most of the rain out of the driver's compartment.

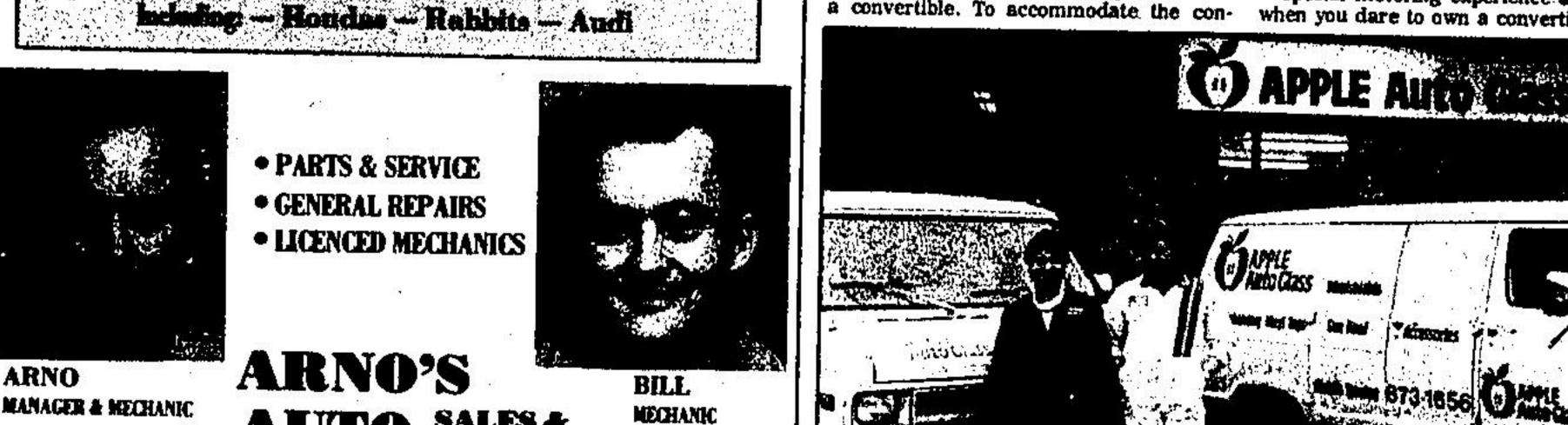
To enjoy a convertible to its fullest, the Hamilton Automobile Club says you must be part adventurer and part extrovert. A healthy sense of humor does not hurt, either. A special motoring experience awaits you when you dare to own a convertible.

With the return of the convertible comes a reawakening of the recently suppressed urge to take a drive just for the sake of a drive. The joy ride and the pleasure of the driving experience itself are back. Sights, sounds and smells that are blocked out by the metal roof in a sedan become part of the convertible experience for drivers and passengers alike.

Convertibles are attention-getters. To be able to enjoy a convertible, you must sacrifice your anonymity. When you drive a convertible, if your car's interior is messy, if you try to beat a stoplight, or if you are not wearing a seat belt, it will be much more obvious to other drivers.

Despite its pleasures convertible motoring has its drawbacks. During driving over rough roads, it is common for the steering column to shake. The shaking occurs because there is a loss of body and chasis rigidity when the metal roof is eliminated from the car.

Back-seat comfort, too, always suffers in a convertible. To accommodate the con-



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The new boys in town, Derek Hazelwood and Wade Bryanton, of Apple Auto Glass, seen here with their mobile auto glass repair unit. Only open a few months the pair is pleased with the way business has been going and anticipate spring and summer. 3.00 are 33.50% is