

### Park Lincoln

Owned by Georgetown's Walt Dixon, Park Lincoln Mercury has a sales staff of six and a total of 24 employees. More than 700 new and used cars are sold annually. Last

week the dealership received its first Grand Marquis cars for 1987. For story see Page 2 of this special section. (Herald photo)

## Troubled by backache?

Backaches: For too many people they are the bane of winter. But the weather itself is not necessarily the culprit.

"Winter back trouble is often caused by sitting repeatedly and for long periods on cold car seats," according to Bjorn Envall.

The problem, said Saab's chief designer, is the foam padding used in car seats: "It's a poor heat conductor and does not readily absorb surrounding heat."

So no matter how effective a car's heating system, a cold seat can stay cold for a half-hour before the driver's body heat counteracts its unhealthy chill.

Because Saabs are made in Sweden, where the winters are long and harsh, cold seats became a subject of concern. Joint research with the Saab Aircraft Division, which builds supersonic fighters, yielded yet more bad news about cold seats. "We found that the chilling of the back and lower trunk can give rise to bladder infections," Mr. Envall said.

A remedy was found in the form of heating pads tucked underneath the seats' upholstery. Electric heating elements in the seat cushion and backrest are now fitted on the front seats of all Saab cars and in the pilot's seat of the Saab Viggen fighter.

The heat pads are automatically controlled by thermostat. When seat temperature is below 57 degrees, the heater is activated the moment the ignition is turned on.

"Tests have shown that the seat cushion is most comfortable at a temperature of 82 degrees," Mr. Envall said. "When that temperature is reached, the thermostat automatically switches off the heating elements."

## Protect your car

Two of the most vital components of an automobile's performance — oil and oil filters — are often the most misunderstood. Many people don't take the time to find out exactly what motor oil and oil filters do, and put off checking their oil, which can ultimately play havoc with a car's performance.

Actually, your car's oil filtration system is easier to understand than many other systems in the engine. It simply coats

moving parts with a slippery shield to prevent metal-to-metal contact from wearing out engine parts; and it cleans, cools and seals engine parts in the process. However, engine temperatures often reach 250 degrees, and the combustion process generates harmful by-products which are dumped into the motor oil crankcase.

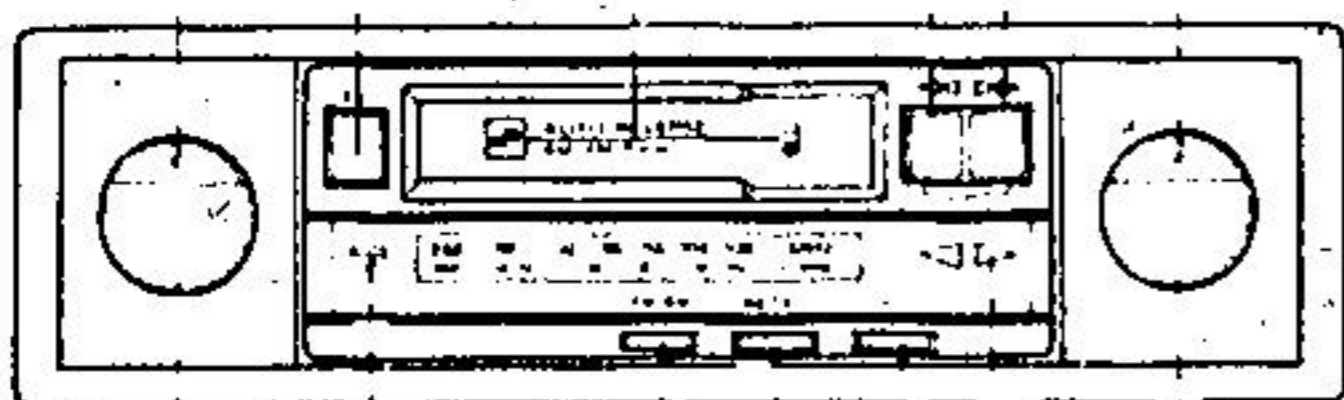
Finding the proper oil and oil filter to stand up to these tough working conditions can be difficult.

The experts at Lee Filter offer the following suggestions when choosing an oil and an oil filter.

- A rule of thumb for replacing motor oil and oil filter is every three months or 3,000 miles, under "normal" driving conditions. If your car is a diesel, has a turbo-charged engine, or is older than three or four years, the interval may be shorter.

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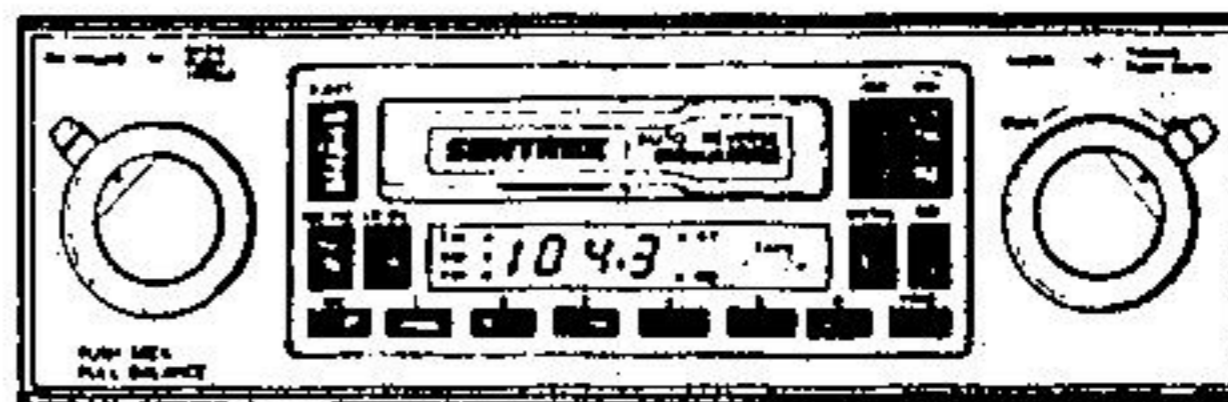


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