

Portland Observer Auto Review

News and reviews on new motor vehicles

2006 Subaru Impreza WRX STi Sedan

The 2006 Impreza WRX STi, is a made-for-the-streets version of an Impreza rally car, which can often be seen on the Speed Channel or ESPN, hauling tail through the air or performing a four-wheel drift in the forest to the thrill of hard-core fans.

The 2006 Subaru Impreza WRX STi is all about performance, with a dose of practicality. Few four-door sedans can match this car's acceleration, speed and handling.

Subaru used the hair-raising rally environment as a testing ground for the STi that is destined for your driveway. The result is an extremely capable sedan that just begs to be unleashed to punish the pavement

with raw street racing power.

With a 300-horse, 2.5-liter engine and trick features like Brembo brakes, an intercooler water sprayer and a driver-controlled center differential, the Impreza WRX STi attracts the attention of many car enthusiasts. With so much useable power the STi is scary quick. The stock engine is 0-60 mph in 5.8 second, 1/4 mile 104 mph in 13.15 seconds. This makes the STi the fastest street-legal Subaru ever.

The 2006 STi appearance and performance enhancements include the tough-looking rear-spoiler and hood scoop, which has been narrowed to feed more air to the intercooler. The STi has the aggressive stance of a speed skater - powerful and poised in the radiant light of the factory-stocked ground effects, body low - leaning into the wind improve to aerodynamics. As you



Street Racing 101 Stock Options: 2.5-liter DOHC intercooled turbocharged 4-cylinder engine; 300-hp at 6,000 rpm and 300-lb.ft. at 4,000 rpm; 6-speed manual transmission. 18-City mpg/ 24-Highway mpg; \$33,000 MSRP

slide under the 3-spoke leather-wrapped steering wheel (unique to the STi) an intimate bond develops between car enthusiast and rally racer; the explosive power and incredible road-hugging-cornering

capabilities demand that together you need to race the wind.

The WRX STi is a high performance compact sedan aimed at rally enthusiast, a rarity in the U.S., as well as young drivers who crave so-called "tuner" cars for the dangerous sport of late-night street racing. The WRX STi has a stunning resume, appearing in films like "The Fast and the Furious," "Tokyo Drift," "Grand Theft Auto" and "The Need For Speed," leading to an increased interest in street racing. There's not much difference between the

STi and some race cars, except that the STi has no roll cage.

The track-tuned 2006 Subaru Impreza WRX STi performs as well as some serious sport sedans that cost nearly twice as much. The STi is capable of truly astonishing performance. Provided you have some place to drive your STi as it's meant to be driven; fast, faster, fastest! Impreza is an Italian word meaning to show or demonstrate impressive achievement; the WRX STi's outstanding performance and handling is enough to impress any car enthusiast.

International Team Unites Cultures

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day. Seifu says any donation, even \$5 or \$10 will be gladly accepted.

The charitable foundation can be reached for donations by visiting the website at agar-eayd.org, by calling Emanuel at 310-493-3706 or by email at fessehawe@hotmail.com.

To learn more about the local team's future plans and sponsor-



ship efforts to bring the North American tournament to Portland, call 503-930-7646 or 503-875-0772.

Amit (left) and Uzoma Izunagbara are defenders on Portland's championship "Abyssinia" soccer club, a team that transcends world politics and religion to accept everybody in a multicultural spirit of unity.

SPORTS

Jefferson Holds Their Own in 5A

Reclassified after drop in enrollment

Jefferson is getting along just fine at Class 5A.

The Democrats were the most prominent boys basketball team in the state to be left out of Class 6A when the Oregon Schools Activities Association's reclassification created a new prep landscape.

Jefferson, a perennial state play-off team, hadn't had a problem staying competitive in the old Class 4A, despite dwindling enrollment that gutted some of the other sports at the school.

Basketball remains a staple and a source of pride. Seven of the last eight seasons before reclassification, Jefferson won a state tournament trophy, including a championship in 2000 with a team widely regarded as among the best in state history.

This season, Marshall Haskins, Jefferson's coach, scheduled many

of its familiar foes in nonleague games.

While being a powerhouse in the state of Oregon is fine and dandy - Jefferson was voted pre-season #1 for this season, by both the coaches and the media - Haskins also wants the school to be recog-

nized nationally. To that end, he has started to schedule aggressively for his team, taking on teams outside the state with national reputations. Jefferson has even flown outside of the state for numerous top events.

Haskins sees a parallel across

the river in Washington. In Seattle, Rainier Beach High School has recently fielded teams that have been considered the best in the state, even though it is a Class 3A school in a four-class system.

"When you're good you're good," Haskins said. "Levels are irrelevant."

In years where Jefferson can make a strong claim as the best team in the state, Haskins said he looks forward to the argument.

"It's like the BCS," he said. "I'd rather be Boise State and be undefeated and then argue that we are the best team."

Haskins said he is not concerned that the best players in the Jefferson neighborhood will seek out the city's 6A schools for more exposure or a chance at a grander prize. If the program remains successful and the scheduling remains competitive, Jefferson basketball shouldn't have any problem attracting players. And the Democrats plan to make themselves at home in Class 5A.



5A Jefferson Democrat Antwon Wooten shoots in the 2nd half of the OSAA High School Basketball Championships against Corvallis.

Semifinals End Jeff Girls Season

Game loss in Willamette upset

Somewhere in a flurry of missed shots and errant passes, top-ranked Jefferson's championship dream began to fall apart Friday in the OSAA Class 5A girls basketball semifinals at the University of Portland Chiles Center.

Danielle Bellando led the No. 5 Willamette of Eugene to a 64-45 upset win against top-ranked Jefferson.

Willamette employed a disciplined matchup-zone defense that held the Democrats to about half of their season average in a 64-45 victory. The No. 5 Wolverines (22-5) went on to defeat Churchill, another Eugene school, 45-29 in the Class 5A title game March 10 at the Chiles Center.

"We felt like Jefferson hadn't played anyone that played tough defense all year," Willamette coach Paul Brothers said. "We thought if we played our defense, we had a great shot."

The Democrats have made a name for themselves this year as a highly competitive athletic program, setting a state record this

season by averaging 87.7 points per game. This shows it is probably a good thing they didn't move down to Class 3A or 4A in the reclassifications last summer.

Enrollment in the Portland high school is just 595 students this year, down from 811 in 2001-2002 and well below the average numbers of other Class 5A schools.

In fact, it's lower than many Class 4A schools.

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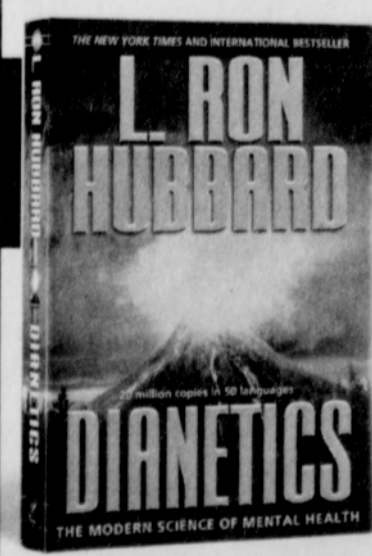
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