

— european tuning for our generation —

# eurotuner

## GRAY MATTER

430hp widebody  
328i turbo



11 tuners track day



eurotunerGP Part 2



Peugeot 206 in USA



Audi A4 1.8T



PRIMEDIA



U.S. \$3.99 CANADA \$4.99 October 2004  
Display Until Oct 19, 2004

EXKLUSIV CULT

225hp Mk4  
Golf five-door



## IN THE KNOW



Image Courtesy of Drexler Photo &amp; Company

## '05 VW GTI

Everyone knew it was coming, but we were still bowled over when we got our hands on spy images of the forthcoming Mk5 GTI. From what we can tell, the GTI wears a large front air dam, sportier side skirts, dual exhaust pipes, and 18-inch wheels. There is little surprise when it comes to engine selection with this car — the GTI should be powered by the new 2.0L, 16v turbo motor, which is rated at 200 hp. This GTI version of the Golf is expected to be officially unveiled at this year's Paris Motor Show, which will be held from September 25 through October 10. It's expected that the 240hp 3.2L VR6 will eventually find its way under the hood of the GTI, with potentially an all-wheel-drive version to follow. The Mk5 GTI should hit European showrooms early next year, but it may be another year before we see it in our dealerships.



Thanks to eBay Motors, nearly every automotive aftermarket Primedia magazine is getting the chance to put their money where their mouths are and build the ultimate tuner vehicle. The Primedia titles have been divided into nine groups, with *eurotuner* being bunched with *Sport Compact Car*, *European Car*, and *Car Audio and Electronics* — other competitors include *Hot Rod*, *Motor Trend*, *Hot Bike*, *Sport Truck*, *Car Craft*, *Super Street*, and many others. Each group was given a budget of \$25,000 to build the best car/bike they could, but almost everything had to be purchased off of eBay Motors' Web site. Our group, dubbed EuroTrash, used our funds to procure the

ultimate of ultimates, a '95 BMW M3. Preliminary plans include installing a turbocharger, coilovers, a nice set of wheels, and a juicy little stereo system. You can check out the progress of the car's buildup on [eurotuner.com](http://eurotuner.com), [EditorsCharityChallenge.com](http://EditorsCharityChallenge.com), or in the magazine (installments should start as early as the Nov. '04 issue). You will choose the winner — all you need to do is head to [EditorsCharityChallenge.com](http://EditorsCharityChallenge.com)



during the first week of November and cast your vote. After all is said and done, the vehicles will be auctioned off at [www.ebaymotors.com](http://www.ebaymotors.com) with no reserve, and the proceeds will go to Charity Cars, a non-profit organization that provides refurbished donated vehicles to families in need.

## JGTC Comes Stateside

The JGTC is finally coming to the USA, more specifically California Speedway in Southern California, before the end of the year. While we're saying "finally," you're probably saying, "What's the JGTC?" JGTC



stands for All-Japan Grand Touring Championship, and it's composed of two classes, the GT300 and GT500. Each class features production vehicles that have been converted into insanely fast racecars. In fact, some of the GT500 cars cost over \$1.5 million, and many are featured in the PlayStation's *Gran Turismo* video game. Nestled in the two classes is a smattering of German metal, including a few Porsche GT3s, a Ferrari F360, and a 550 Maranello. To read more about the series, check out the JGTC's US Web site, [www.jgtcusa.net](http://www.jgtcusa.net). While you're there, you can even buy your tickets to see the series when it's at California Speedway on December 18 and 19 as part of GT Live — an automotive festival, so to speak, that features the JGTC, drifting, a time attack, an autocross, kart racing, r/c car racing, a car show, a sound off competition, a dyno challenge, a motorcycle stunt show and much more. JGTC coverage can also be seen on Redline TV ([www.redline-tv.com](http://www.redline-tv.com)) airing through the end of September on Spike TV.

## High Gas Prices

According to the Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI), a non-profit organization that's apparently dedicated to limited government, CEI's Director of Air Quality Policy, Ben Lieberman, is heading to the House Committee on Government Reform to take on the issue of high gas prices. Ben and CEI have formulated a plan to keep gas prices from skyrocketing via controlling "the ever-increasing regulatory burden on refiners and distributors" of gasoline. Part of the plan includes "streamlining rules that mandate multiple specialized gasoline blends for different parts of the country and months of the year." Having recently driven across the country, we're hoping that if CEI has its way, the government doesn't standardize 90-octane as the highest grade of fuel, as is the case in some Mid-Western states. To learn more, check out [www.cei.org](http://www.cei.org).



## RUMOR HAS IT

Not only has VW and BMW introduced iPod-compatible devices in some of their cars, but Alpine's iPod adapter (KCA-420i), which is compatible with all of Alpine's 2004 Ai-Net in-dash units, should be available by the time you read this. The cost should be around \$100.

If you're looking for new taillights for your Mini, then you're in luck. APC is now producing its APC Retro 3D lights for the hot hatch.

Mercedes has announced the release of its latest M5 fighter, the CLS55. Though M-B touts the car as a coupe when it's obviously a sedan, it does have the muscle to back up any claim. The motor is a 476hp, 5.5L V8, and 0-to-60 times are expected to be around 4.7 seconds. Release of the CLS in the USA will be in early 2005, with the CLS55 hitting showrooms later that year.

