



Brookhaven Police officer Cpl. Bart Scott demonstrates how to operate the new battery-powered police vehicle.

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## Campus police ride into future

**By: Kristin McKenzie**

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The Brookhaven College Police Department enhanced their patrolling mechanisms for officers by increasing their visibility on campus, hoping to increase approachability.

Two T3 Motions, purchased by the department, can operate all day on the cost of 10 cents of electricity (to fully charge the batteries) and require zero gasoline, according to the company's Web site.

The T3 Motion, a three-wheeled standing law enforcement vehicle, can go places where cars cannot, Brookhaven police chief David Reagan said. The platform on the T3 Motion raises a person nine inches and gives greater visibility over the tops of cars in parking lots and crowds of people.

The petite size of the T3 Motion eases the maneuvering and includes a zero-degree turn radius for convenience.

Cpl. Bart Scott said Police can get to calls quicker on the T3 Motions, and the T3 Motions are quiet and don't pollute the environment.

The electrically operated, zero gas emission T3 Motion runs on batteries that are easily charged and switched at the start of new shifts for police officers.

Reagan said the department purchased the T3 Motions with funding from last year's budget. He said the operational cost was the deciding factor to buy two T3 Motions for the same price as one squad car. The cost for the T3 Motions, extra batteries and maintenance agreements was about \$12,000, Reagan said.

Scott said the officers will adapt to the layout of the campus and find ways to get around where steps block their paths. He said the T3 Motions can go down steps (not that they will) but not climb them. An officer will get off a T3 Motion and engage in a foot chase if needed, but they will not endanger themselves while operating, Scott said.

The T3 Motions feature an LED screen, headlights, brake lights and a siren. They do not have built-in radios, but each officer carries one. When operating a T3 Motion, officers must wear safety reflective vests, helmets and eyewear.

The T3 Motion will not be used in inclement weather conditions.

To operate it, the officers must complete the training; then, the T3 Motions are set to operate within each  
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Scott said the maximum speed for the T3 Motion is 25 miles per hour, but they lock the speed control much lower than that. He said it has two 16-inch, chrome motorcycle wheels and a front ATV wheel for stability. There is a maintenance check done in between rides, Scott said.

Officers riding the T3 Motion will yield the right of way to pedestrians and will never carry passengers.

Reagan said Richland and El Centro colleges have the two-wheeled Segway, but the T3 Motion is safer. "Students like them [T3 Motions], and the officers are easier to approach than when in a car," he said.

Scott said rarely will people see the two T3 Motions riding alongside. He said it is safer not to ride next to one another, and riding separate gives them a greater area covered on campus.

Reagan said officers are excited to have them and they are great for community policing.

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