

ExerTrike gaining momentum beyond Erin

This is the first of a two-part feature on Jay Perdue and his ExerTrike Tri-hybrid.

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You might say Jay Perdue is peddling his way to success – at least partly.

Over the Thanksgiving holiday, Perdue, an inventor and businessman, set a record by traveling by battery power, gas power and human power from Erin to Amarillo, Texas on his ExerTrike Tri-hybrid.

Before he left, Perdue had definite projects about what he thought his vehicle would do. He couldn't find any information of anyone getting a human power vehicle approved for interstate travel.

"To get from one exit to the next would have been a record," he said proudly. "We not only did that, but we traveled 1,000 miles ... average 60 mph got 320 mpg."

Even battery power was better than expected.

"We thought we would have to recharge every 80 miles," he said. We traveled 160 miles on one stretch before we had to recharge."

"That not only was a first, but we blew every expectation out the water."

Since the trip, things haven't



Jay Perdue gets ready for his trip to Amarillo, Texas, in November.

slowed down. In fact, Perdue said he has been busier than ever and has attracted attention all over the country.

The Discovery Channel aired two stories on Perdue's adventures and Perdue expects a third segment will be shown early this

year.

In the meantime, the car is on display at West Gate Mall in Amarillo, Texas. In April and May, he

will have an education display at three of Nashville's four largest malls – Cool Springs Mall, Rivergate Mall and One Hundred Oaks.

The exhibit will be an education exhibit, featuring discussions about aerodynamics, electric battery power, human power, frames and other topics related to the vehicle. Perdue said the display would contain more than 30 pages of information.

In addition to the ExerTrike, Perdue's amphibious vehicle also will be on display.

Perdue is pleased with the exposure he had gotten on the Discovery Channel.

"They did an awesome job of telling our story," he said. "We topped out at 60 mph, never got below 45 climbing hills, got 320 mpg on one leg of the trip and went 160 miles on one charge of batteries on another leg of the trip.

The only real shortfall was bad pavement. The vehicle has no shocks or springs.

"We trailed past sections of highway and the last 100 miles to miss an approaching 50 mile an hour northern wind," he said. "We still got 700 miles of the trip and that was great even though short of our goal.

The ExerTrike Tri-Hybrid blew us and everyone on the interstate away at its performance, handling, stability, and unbelievable economy."