



Race Report

Team Lucas Oil/Deaknbuilt Racing and their class 1450 Ford Ranger finally have a first race under their belt. With the tremendous effort of friends, family and crew members the Ford Ranger made the start line of the first MDR California Championship Series race on Saturday February 2nd. Getting the truck to the race proved to be no easy task. Every racer knows that designing, building and prepping a race vehicle will always go over the intended schedule.



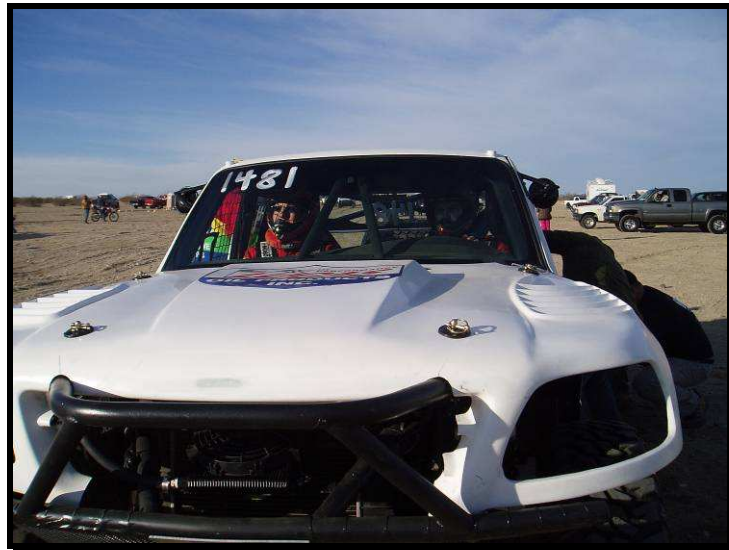
Even after working on the truck for over a year, the Team Lucas Oil/Deaknbuilt Racing crew found themselves running down to the wire. At 11pm, the night before the race, the crew was filling the oils, fueling up and tightening the last bolts. This meant they would go to the race with no real testing or tuning on the never driven truck. Realizing that no one can ever be 100% ready for an off road race, the team decided that “jumping in the deep end” would be the weekend’s plan of attack.



Although the truck had not been tested, driver Jeremy Deakins and co-driver Chuck Deakins proved that past experience and natural skill would compensate for any lack of testing or prep. Jeremy came off the starting line smooth and never let off the gas. To the crew's satisfaction, the truck seemed to be working great. The suspension was performing almost exactly as their design had intended and Jeremy was pressing it to the



limit. He continued to push hard and passed two higher classed vehicles within the first 15 miles. Everything was looking great until mile 27 when fate decided to step in. A faulty wheel stud kit came apart on the driver side rear hub and the truck skidded to a stop as the wheel and tire bounced through the weeds. The damage was beyond a track side repair and so the Ford Ranger was out of the race.



The team was obviously disappointed at not being able to finish the race, but felt great about the way the driver and truck had performed. With a little tweaking and some minor repairs the Team Lucas Oil/Deaknbuilt Racing crew is confident that the next race will showcase the driver and truck's full potential. They've now got some time to work out the kinks, re-prepare and be prepared for the next round on April 5th in Barstow California.



Of course racing is not possible without the help of sponsors, crew, friends and family. In this case supporters came out of the woodwork and rallied together to get Jeremy and the class 1450 Ford Ranger to the races.

Deaknbuilt Racing would like to thank their sponsors: *Lucas Oil, Sway-A-Way, Deaver Springs, K&N Filters, Troy Lee Designs, Ultra Wheels and McKenzie's.*

Also Friends and crew: *Brady Helm, Dylan Evans, Indian Mike, Jim Price/4-wheels-a-go-go, Wise Plumbing, Jeff Lothringer, Limberger Fab, Muffin, Big O Brad, Benjammin Racing, Johnny Jump, Kevin Williams, Greg Skibel, Trever & Chelsea, Gary & Jared, Adam & Xaviera, Felicia, Dian, Big Mike & Carrie, Christin/Chris/Jesse(Lucas Oil) and Baby Girl.*

