

# PORTRAIT OF THE WEST

*Josey Ross and son Tipton after a day of hooligans running wild.*

*Words by Rochelle Danielson. Photo by Cody Ross.*



**A**fter a day's branding at the Lightning Bolt Cattle Company in Joseph, Ore., Josey Ross, "plain give out," sits astride her horse, Jody, and holds her three-year-old son, Tipton, who is in the same shape.

For Josey, it had been an all-around rewarding day. She helped flank 320 calves, she roped some and gave shots, and still kept a mother's eye on Tip and his five-year-old sister, Bryer, as they romped through the day. Cody, their father who captured this moment, calls them hooligans running wild.

"The kids never stop and neither does Josey," he says. "My wife is a full-time employee at the Center for Wellness in Enterprise, and on weekends she pitches in and helps feed cows, and other farm chores, all the while teaching the kids all about daily ranching."

Josey says: "Ranching has been a part of my life since I was a little girl. I love the hard work, good dogs, gentle horses, calving season and branding. Hopefully my kids will love the lifestyle just as much as Cody and I do. Hard work is rewarding and makes a fella tired, and what better place to fall asleep than on your horse with your momma." ■