Portrait of the West



Scott & Jeff Davies

Words and photo by Larry Turner

Ranch children start learning the value of work at a young age. Little Scott and Jeff Davies pitch in by opening a gate for their dad Stacy who (out of the scene) awaits horseback. They live along the remote Catlow Rim of southeast Oregon's Steens Mountains.

"We gave them chores to do not too long after they learned to walk. Learning the value of work and cooperation at an early age never hurt any of us, no matter the age," says the elder Davies. The boys go to elementary school nearly 50 miles away in Frenchglen.

"Makes for long days, but the boys still get up to help with chores before and after school."

Stacy and his wife Elaine raise cattle, horses and six boys. ■

Larry Turner is a regular contributor to RANGE. He can be reached at <skiturn789@yahoo.com>.