

# Back in the saddle



Photos by Steve Mitchell

ABOVE: Mutton-busting, the perennially popular kids' event, was on the schedule as the Methow Valley Memorial Day Rodeo returned to action after a year's absence.  
RIGHT: Saddle broncs and cowboys alike went airborne.



ABOVE: Barrel racing is a horse-and-rider team event, requiring high-precision performances by both.  
BELOW, CLOCKWISE: It's always a wild ride when a cowboy climbs onto a bull with only a rope to hang on to. The tension mounts before the chutes fly open with a burst of action. But there is also time for friendly conversations and reconnections. The next Methow Valley Rodeo is scheduled for Labor Day weekend.



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