2018 IPRA WORLD CHAMPION ALL-AROUND COWBOY TIE-DOWN ROPER STEER WRESTLER

JUSTIN THIGPEN

AGE: 36

WAYCROSS, GA

Justin Thigpen has proven himself to be one of the most talented cowboys in the history of the IPRA. At the conclusion of IFR49 Justin's world title tallies went to 9 Tie-Down Roping titles, 5 Steer Wrestling titles and 4 All-Around titles. He also earned the Team Roping Heading world title in 2016.

Justin was also the high money earner of IFR49 with earnings of over \$10,000. "I had a very blessed year and a good week," said Justin. "I have a great support system in my family and close friends. It's not a huge group, but it's a good group and I couldn't do it without them."

"My new found fountain of youth is my boys; Slade, 5 and Trent, 3. They love going to rodeos and I figure I am about 4-5 years away from being junior rodeo bound," laughs Justin.

Thigpen and wife Laura also own T-T Rodeo Company. "I plan to produce more rodeos in 2019. My goal is to have 10-15 rodeos this year, 15 per year is my goal. The boys are always asking me when we're going to one of "our" rodeos."

"If the good Lord is willing, I'll have another good year competing and keep going as long as I can. I really don't plan on slowing down for another 4-5 years and then I'll probably be hauling the boys to rodeos."