

Entertainment WEEKLY

HORSE-MAD filmmaker Amanda Micheli's **JUST FOR THE RIDE** (PBS, July 23, 10-11 p.m.), on the strong P.O.V. series, is, in its camera work and editing, often as unsteady as a bum on a bull. But her awed affection for famous rodeo cowgirls Fern Sawyer and Jan Youren gives her debut docu a simple warmth. Sawyer, a Women's Pro Rodeo champ, is a pip: At 76, she's seen strutting in red spandex and tricked-up boots. Youren, a grandmother of 38, is a different doozy: She once rode for a year with a broken back and didn't know it. And when she wins a rough-riding contest, at the age of 51, she does so with two dislocated shoulders. Inspired (*inspired?!),* Micheli takes lessons from Youren and enters a competition. The filmmaker's motto should be, I did this wild cowgirl thing so you'll never have to. —Lisa Schwarzbaum

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POV