On Your Own:

Session 2: Shooting a News Event

Now it’s time to take our photography to the next level: shooting a news event. Before shooting the event, try to go early, or even the day before to look at the site to get a feel for the lighting and the setting.

Be sure you have fully charged batteries as well as adequate disk storage space. Have you made arrangements to get access to the event, if necessary?

When you arrive at the event, get into position as quickly as possible, and be as unobtrusive as possible. You’ll get better, more natural photos if you can become part of the background.

Be ready to shoot quickly; the action may not last long. Remember that you will be limited to the capacity of the camera’s storage media, so try to make every shot count, and delete poor photos to make room for more good photos. You’ll want to leave with a camera full of good images that tell the story of the news event, so try to think about the following techniques as you shoot.

**SET THE SCENE**

- Take a variety of photos, such as close-ups and overall shots, to more completely tell the story.

**FILL THE FRAME**

- Get as close as possible to the action.
THINK ABOUT FOREGROUND AND BACKGROUND

• Frame your subject with an interesting foreground. Be sure the background does not distract.

VERTICAL

• Take photos of the activity with the camera held at 90 degrees. Select a subject that vertically fits the frame.

RULE OF THIRDS

• Take photos of a subject positioned with the Rule of Thirds in mind.

ROOM TO RUN

• Take photos of a moving subject, leaving space ahead of the subject in the photo.

TRY A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

• Try shooting from a kneeling position, or from up on a sturdy chair.

EDIT AS YOU GO, AND BE SURE YOU HAVE EVERYTHING BEFORE LEAVING

• Delete unwanted photos to make room for better ones, and be sure to ask for names and other details before you leave.