

Organization, tenacity important

Photojournalists stress versatility

By Bill Graf

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.—The National Press Photographers of America's "Flying Short Course" stressed the need for news photographers who can do more than take pictures.

"Like a basketball player, a photographer must learn to move without the ball," said James Sugar of National Geographic.

To be successful, "a photographer must organize his shooting schedule, as well as have enough time to think out the situation and be good at problem solving," Sugar said.

While shooting the series that won him the title of Magazine Photographer of the Year, Sugar said he carefully organized his shooting schedule. If he had a problem getting a shot he could go on to something else and return to get the original shot later.

Time to shoot an assignment also is important, he said. Once he was given the same assignment by an advertising agency and National Geographic.

"The ad agency gave me two days and the Geographic gave me three weeks. I was much happier with the photographs I took for the National Geographic. It was the same photographer, the same camera and the same assignment, the only difference was the amount of time I had."

His winning assignment, "America's Sunset Coast" was a good exercise in problem solving.

"I wanted to get a shot from the top of the Golden Gate Bridge, but at first the people in charge of the bridge wouldn't let me climb to the top. After ten days, they realized that I wouldn't go away until I got the shot so I finally got what I had come for."

"You must focus your mind on the problem and will the picture to happen," he said.

Newspaper photographer of the year, Chris Johns of the Topeka Capital-Journal, presented his slideshow, "The Subject Speaks."

The slideshow consisted of shots of some of Johns' subjects and tape recordings of their thoughts about the



Photo by K. Haugstatter

Y. Horiba cleaned and repaired Nikon cameras as a service offered by Nikon at the NPPA's Flying Short Course in Minneapolis.

articles after they had appeared in the newspaper. Johns wanted to see if his subjects thought they had been portrayed accurately.

Most of the subjects' reactions were positive. However, "some people don't want to see what they should see," he said. "Some things should be seen, so as to make the community a better place to live."

Kennedy support to decline—Risser

By Kathy Stokebrand

Although Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., is probably more popular with the public now than President Carter, the Washington bureau chief of the Des Moines Register and Tribune, said the wave of popularity probably will swing back to the president.

James Risser, who fielded questions from Sigma Delta Chi, the Society of Professional Journalists Thursday, said Democrats will get scared to remove an incumbent as the election draws closer. A closer look at Kennedy's legislative record might also decrease his popularity, he said.

The two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, referring to Congress as "an overgrown legislature," said it would take a new reporter approximately one year to get acquainted with Washington.

Adding that the Des Moines Register and Tribune are, not widely read in Washington, Risser said. "In Washington, it's like writing stories and sending them into the blue." Risser writes mostly about consumer and environmental aspects of agriculture.

Risser received one of his Pulitzer Prizes for uncovering corruption in the U.S. export grain industry.

He found that the grain inspection agencies were owned by the grain companies. These companies were, among other things, exporting substandard shipments.

The government was cooperative in his investigation but he said he was required to go through much paperwork, in the form of formal requests, for information.

As a result of his investigation Congress passed a law federalizing the grain inspection program, Risser said.

Pershing rifle corps fires up

Members of the Pershing Rifles, a ROTC organization with its national headquarters at UNL, will meet today and Tuesday at the Lincoln Hilton.

The two-day conference will be attended by 18 Pershing Rifle members from 13 geographical divisions in the country.

Members will discuss organizational changes, plan for an inter-group competition, and set goals for next year.

The Pershing Rifles are named for John J. Pershing, who trained the American Expeditionary forces to fight in World War I. According to Kevin Born, national commander for the Pershing Rifles, Pershing is a father figure for the group.

The Pershing Rifles is a military organization, although its membership is 10 percent civilian, Born said. The organization has nearly 3,000 members—most from the Army, Navy, and Air Force, he added.

Born said in 1891, when Pershing came to the University of Nebraska as a lieutenant in charge of the campus military department, NU was "anti-militaristic." But

under the leadership of Pershing, the campus military forces were brought to a professional standard, he said.

Today's Pershing Rifles emphasize four areas: drill with arms, tactics, riflery, and leadership skills, Born said.

The drill work is in preparation for a yearly competition between the organization's many branches. This year's competition will be held in Tampa, Fla. with expected attendance of 400 Pershing Rifle members, Born said.

Tactics is "practical application" of military skills, Born said.

"We go out on a weekend and play army," he said.

The Pershing Rifles of UNL include about 25 members, Born said, including Born as national commander and a staff of five who serve as national administrators.

Born said the Pershing Rifles have enjoyed many distinguished past members. NU Regent Kermit Hansen, former Nebraska governor Norbert Tiemann, and President Harry Truman have been Pershing Rifle members, he said.

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