

**Creating
the image**

Composition

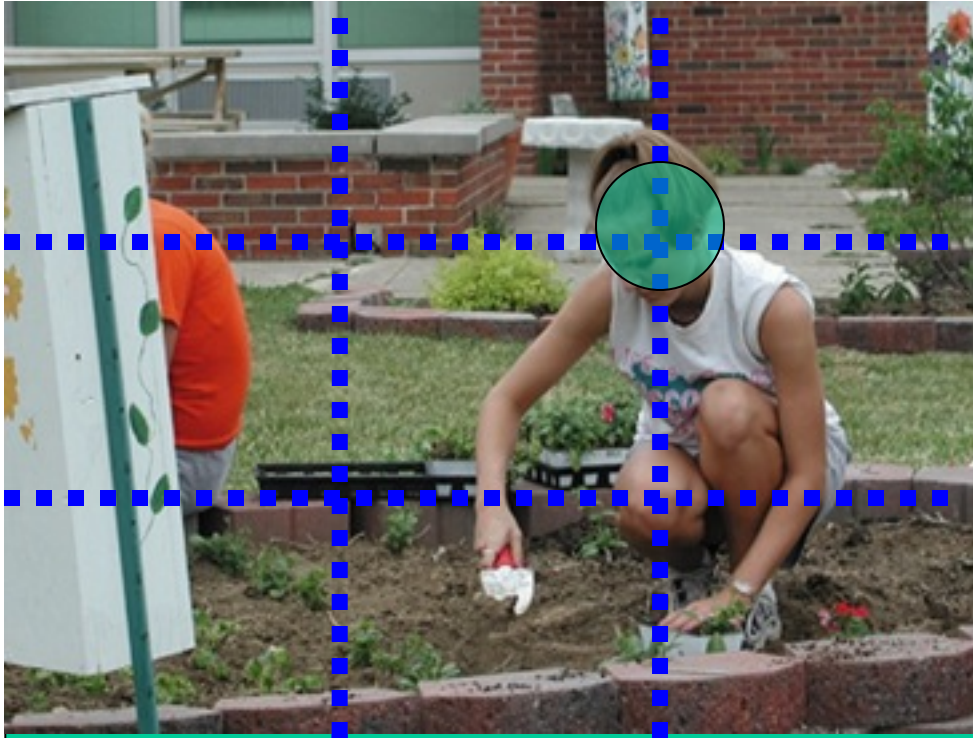
**Planning
the shot**

Rule of thirds

Two choices

Fill the frame

Rule of thirds



Divide the frame into thirds vertically and horizontally.

Place subject on one of the intersections

Never center.

41%
of users focus
here first, longest

20%

25%

14%



Fill the Frame



**Get in
tight.**

**More
emotional
and more
dramatic**

“If your pictures aren’t good enough, you’re not close enough.”

-Robert Capa



Limit – one to three people in the photo is best



Other elements of

Composition

Use one
or a
combo
of
several

- Dominance
- Subordination
- Contrast
- Framing
- Selective focus
- Leading lines/looks
- Catch action
- Simplicity
- Mood/emotion
- Limit
- Action/reaction
- Fresh angles

Dominance
– the main
subject of the
photograph



Subordination
– secondary
objects that
strengthen or
lead to the
dominant.

Contrast – black or dark versus white or lighter elements of the photo helps to bring out a mood or element.



Framing – subordinate element in the foreground or background that frames the subject matter.



Fresh angle – new way to take Spell Bowl

Selective focus – Bringing some elements into focus and purposely make some blurry.



Leading lines/ looks –

Use elements and other people's eyes in foreground and background to lead to the subject.



■ Interaction

■ Teacher or coach/student interaction

Catch action – Get the action moving toward you or from the side.



Simplicity – watch backgrounds or other
distracting elements.





Mood –
capture the
overall feel
for the
event.

Emotion, reaction and interaction

**People
element** –
always
have people
in the
frame.



Fresh Angle –
Find a new
way of looking
at the same
thing.



Cheerleaders
decorate for
Homecoming

Suggestion

on taking

Drama or Concerts

- Often drama and music productions have dress rehearsals where you can use a flash and get close.
- Become friends with the drama or music sponsor and set up a special viewing or ask when to expect something.
- Take cast/group shot.
- Don't only take photos of actors or those on stage. Lots of people work behind the scenes.
- Most good photos will have less than 4 people.
- Watch for emotion

Which elements of composition

Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Contrast
- Existing light helps reflect the mood here



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Emotion
- Leading looks



Take NOTICE

- Fill the frame
- Mood



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Backstage quiet moments



Take NOTICE

- Reaction
- Covering all types of kids
- Action



Take NOTICE

- **Fill the frame**
- **Emotion**
- **Don't forget to turn the camera vertically**



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Action and reaction



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Simplicity
- Framing



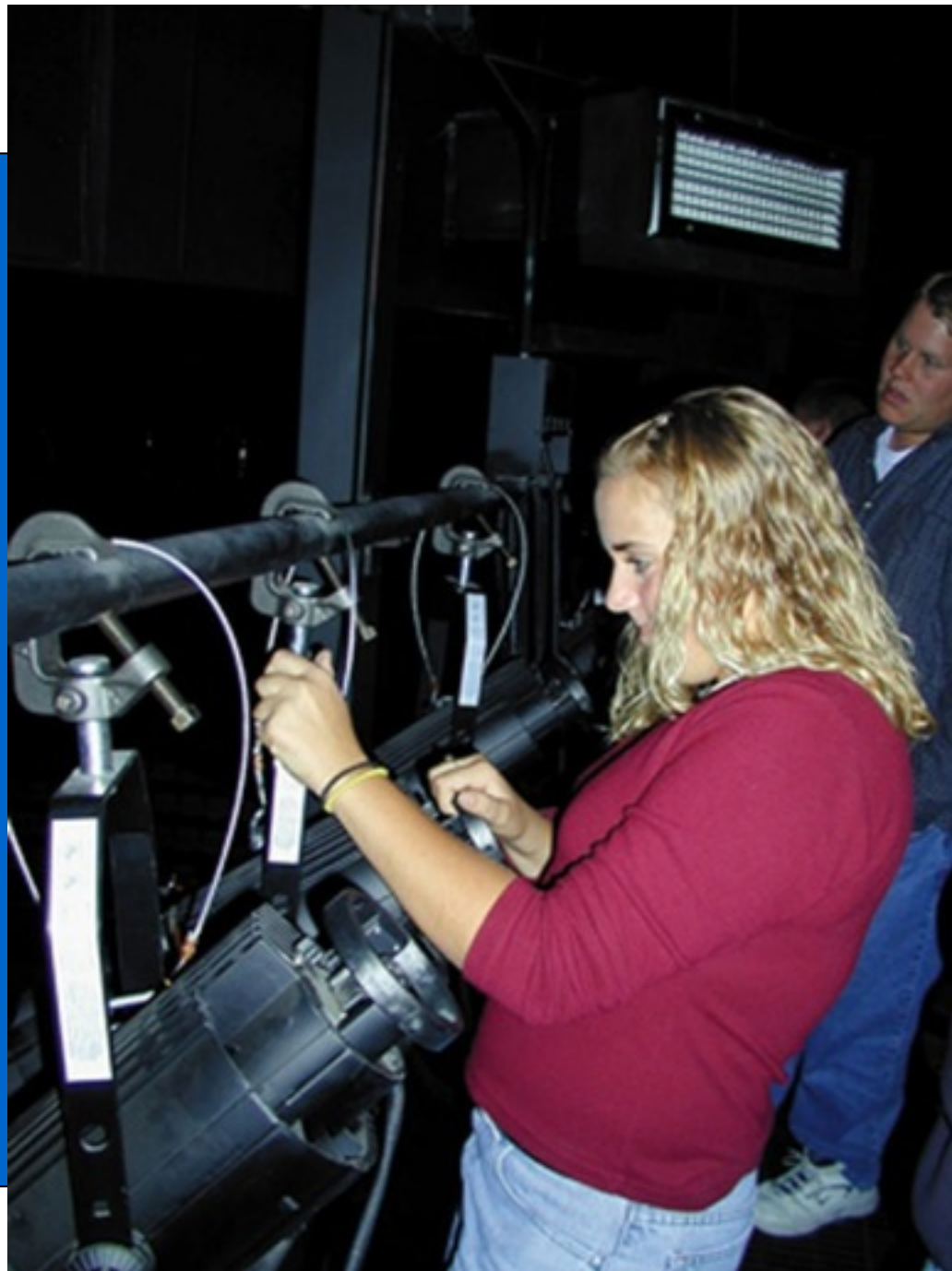
Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Action/ reaction
- Limit people



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Leading looks



Suggestion

on taking Academics

- Ask teachers or students and keep your ears open for interesting projects and lessons.
- Photographers should carry cameras with them.
- Get a right attitude. These do NOT have to be boring shots.
- Get close, get action and reaction.
- Do NOT stand at the door and take the whole classroom.
- Plan what you will take. Think it through.

Which elements of composition

Take NOTICE

- **Fresh Angle**
- **Leading looks**
- **Got a student who isn't featured often**



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Emotion
- Class presentations are great times to get shots



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Leading looks



Take NOTICE

- **Contrast
*of being
outside***
- **Candid
means
that the
photo is
unposed**



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Emotion
- Skits are great times to get shots



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Fill the frame
- Contrast
- Leading looks



Suggestion

on taking Activities

- Know when events and meetings happen.
- Plan ahead and position yourself close to the action.
- Watch for behind the scene moments and people who rarely are noticed.
- Position yourself in front or on the side of action.
- No photograph needs to be boring.
- Get a variety of people in shots.
- Ask members or sponsors for ideas.

Which elements of composition

Take NOTICE

- Action
- Leading looks
- Emotion
- Mood



Take NOTICE

- **Leading line/looks**
- **Catch behind the scenes**
- (This is guard preparing for competition)



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Leading looks
- Action



Take NOTICE

- Fill the frame
- Mood
- Leading looks



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Action
- Mood
- Leading looks



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Mood
- Leading looks



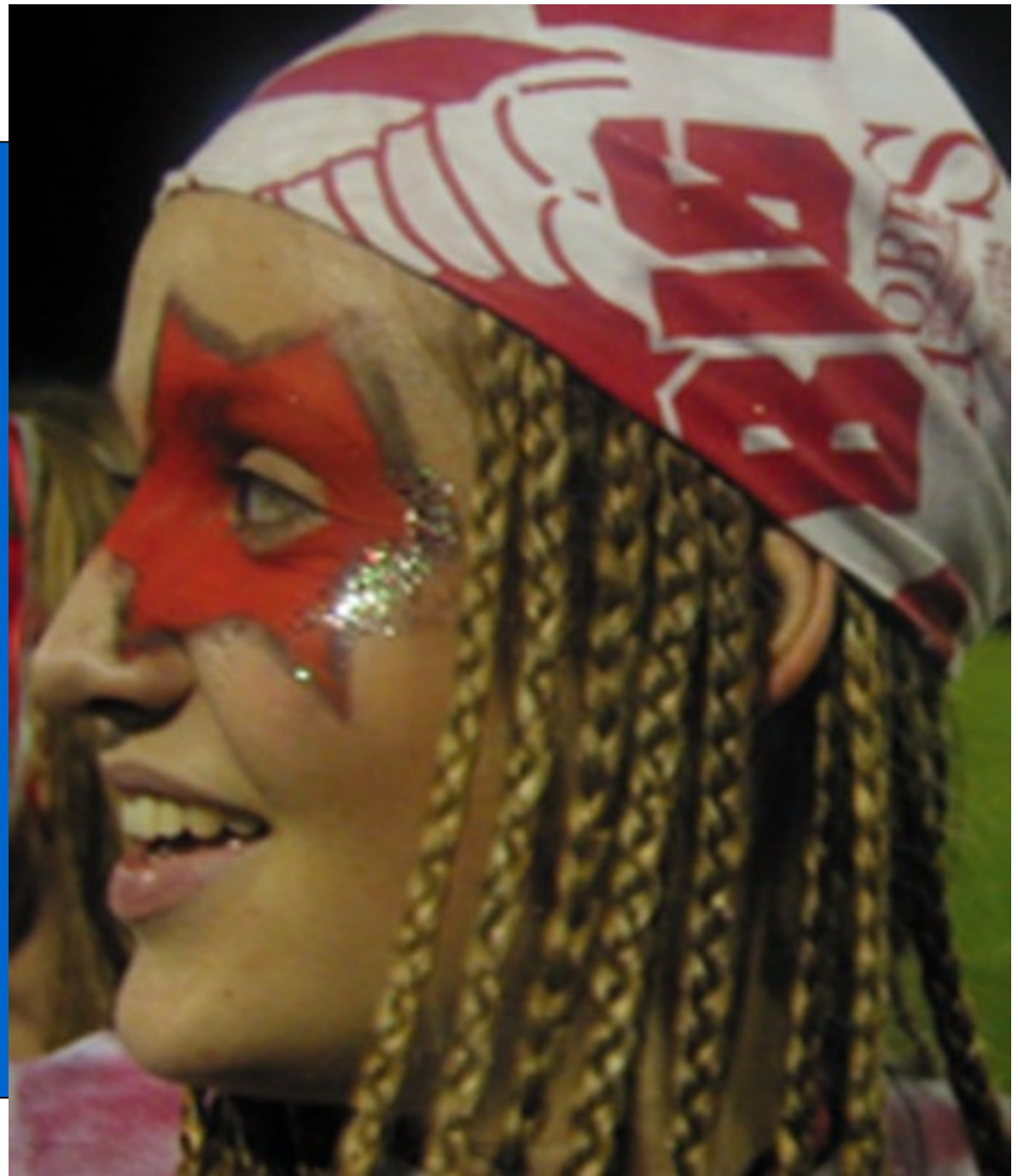
Take NOTICE

- Action
- Mood



Take NOTICE

- **Fill the frame**
- **Simplicity**
- **Mood**



Take NOTICE

- **Fill the frame**
- **Emotion**
- **Go there**
Taken at X-fest
(all-day concert)
with press
credentials



Take NOTICE

- **Rule of thirds**
- **Leading looks**
- **Go there**
Taken at X-fest
(all-day concert) with
press
credentials



Suggestion

on taking Sports

- Know your sport and anticipate action.
- Pre-focus where the action might be.
- Have good equipment and know how to use it.
- If you use a zoom, get as close as you can BEFORE you use it.
- Catch the action at its apex.
- Watch for behind the scene moments and people who rarely are noticed.
- Position yourself in front or on the side of action.
- If you are not sure of where to stand, what to take, or how to set your camera...ASK!

Which elements of composition

Take NOTICE

- **Leading looks**
- **Emotion**
- **Tell the story**
Soccer won first game of sectionals



Take NOTICE

- Leading looks
 - Emotion
 - Tell the story
- Soccer lost sectionals for the first time ever.



Take NOTICE

- **Leading line**
- **Action**
- **Leave room to run into**



Take NOTICE

- Fill the frame
- Emotion
- Simplicity



Take

NOTICE

- **Action**
- **Framing**
- **Fill the frame**



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Leading looks
- Cover the trainers or managers



Take NOTICE

- **Leading looks**
- **Emotion**
- **Tell more**
Cheerleaders have clinics for kids and often decorate the school.



Take NOTICE

- **Action**
- **Get the ball**



Take NOTICE

- Framing
- Fresh angle



Take NOTICE

- **Leading looks**
- **Emotion**
- **Tell more of the story**
Swimmers shave before sectionals.



Take NOTICE

- Rule of thirds
- Mood
- Covering everybody



Take NOTICE

- Leading looks
- Emotion
- Action



Take NOTICE

- **Action**
- **Framing**
- **Would be best to get face of player**



Take NOTICE

- Action
- Would be best to get legs/feet in the shot



Suggestion

on taking Group shots

- Group shots simply document. They should never be a dominant element
- Plan where to take the photos. Guard against distractions and plan for rows.
- You want each person's face to be at least the size of a pencil head eraser.
- Use more rows rather than long lines.
- Make sure ALL faces can be seen.
- Have someone watch for inappropriate hand or facial gestures.
- Focus on the middle row. A wide angle lens may help
- Leave space around the photo for cropping.
- Break down large groups into sections or by grade.
- You can be creative, but need to see all faces clearly.

Credit where credit is due

Special thanks to:

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