



## photography

**Monte Nagler**

# Be ready for the big play at boys, girls baseball games

Even though we're in the midst of Little League baseball season, it's not too late to capture some good pictures of the action on film. Imagine how rewarding it would be through the use of photographs to look back on some of those cherished moments that happen only once in a lifetime to our kids.

With the right equipment, right film, and a little knowhow, it's easy to record some of those precious moments that keep memories alive.

Here are some tips to help you get better pictures of your son or daughter as they join in the action and excitement of the cry of "play ball."

**THE BEST WAY** to get impact in your shot is to fill the frame with the action. Moving in as close as you can and using a telephoto lens in the range of 135mm - 200mm will best do the trick.

A zoom lens is ideal because it gives you a wide range of focal lengths from which to select.

Most often, you'll want to use a wide aperture to minimize depth-of-field, thus blurring any distracting objects in the background. The large aperture will also give you a desirable fast shutter speed.

Use 400 ASA film for either color and black and white. Fast film will enable you to shoot at faster shutter speeds in order to "freeze" the action.

In black and white, Kodak Tri-X is a good choice. In color, use Kodacolor 400 (for prints) or Ektachrome 400 (for slides).

If lighting conditions are not favorable, you can "push" these films to get extra speed out of them.

Some points to keep in mind when using fast shutter speeds: If the action is moving in a perpendicular direction to you, use a speed of at least 1/500 to stop the action. If the action is coming towards you or at a slight angle, 1/125 or 1/250 will do.

**LEARN AND** study the game to help you anticipate where the action is going to be.

If you expect a play at home plate, be in focus with exposure set and ready to shoot when the play occurs. Try to catch the action at its peak by developing a hair-trigger state of readiness.

Practice will enable you to predict when the peak of the action will happen. Before you know it, you'll be able to capture on film the exact moment the bat connects with the ball or the slide comes into home.

"Panning" with the action will give you some unusual pictorial effects. By using a shutter speed of 1/60 second and moving the camera with the action

such as a base runner, the result will be a sharp subject and a blurred background.

**DON'T OVERLOOK** expressions in faces. Candid pictures of young faces showing happiness, excitement, even sadness and disappointment will reward you with treasured moments on film. Beside, the kids' natural expressions all help to tell the story of Little League ball.

While we're talking about baseball, the advice mentioned will help you in photographing other spring/summer sports such as soccer or tennis. The important thing is to be tuned into the game and tuned into your camera so that you'll enjoy your own "instant replays" on film for a long time to come.

© 1982, Monte Nagler  
Monte Nagler will be teaching a summer photography class at the Farmington Community Center beginning July 6 and lasting four weeks. Phone the center at 477-8404 for further information.

## AGORAPHOBIA

- FEAR of driving alone
- FEAR of waiting in lines
- FEAR of going far from home
- FEAR of social situations
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- FEAR of being trapped
- "FEAR OF FEAR"

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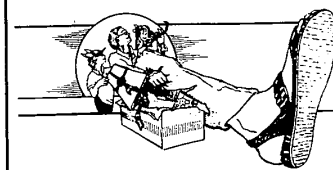


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