



IN-USE PHOTO BY JACK AND SUE DRAFAHL

**With trap focus, the 230-AF Super automatically fires when a subject enters a prefocused zone—ideal for photographing birds returning to the nest and many other situations.**

(the word PROGRAM on the LED panel will blink when the program is shifted; rapidly when shifted to high, slowly when shifted to low).

In shutter-priority AE, you set the desired shutter speed (by sliding the operating lever right to raise speeds and left to lower them), and the camera automatically sets the corresponding aperture for correct exposure. In aperture-priority AE, you set the desired aperture (by sliding the operating lever right to set smaller apertures and left to set larger ones), and the camera automatically sets the corresponding shutter speed for correct exposure. Both of these modes offer a safety-shift feature: If the shutter speed or aperture you set will result in incorrect exposure, the camera will automatically change it to provide proper exposure.

A button located to the right of the LCD panel and marked +/- allows you to set  $\pm 2$  EV of exposure compensation in AE modes, changing the compensation in  $\frac{1}{2}$ -stop increments with each push of the button. You can also make

the same incremental changes by sliding the operating lever while keeping the +/- button depressed. Compensation is displayed at the bottom right of the LCD panel. There's also an AE-lock button on the back of the camera that allows you to meter the desired area and lock-in that exposure, then recompose the image and shoot. There's even automatic backlight compensation, a feature that automatically corrects exposure differences between subject and brighter background up to 2 EV, in  $\frac{1}{2}$ -EV increments.

In manual mode, you set both shutter speed and aperture (sliding the operating lever left or right lowers or raises the shutter speed; sliding it left or right while pressing the aperture-setting button increases or decreases the aperture). A red LED at the bottom of the viewfinder display blinks slowly if exposure is not correct. As you approach proper exposure, the blinking rate increases until the LED glows steadily when you've set the proper exposure (in the camera's opinion). Of course, you can set the shutter speed and aperture according to a handheld meter reading, or your own intuition, if desired.

One great feature for the less-experienced shooter is the P button at the far left of the camera's top plate. This auto-

matically returns the camera to point-and-shoot mode, regardless of any camera settings you've made.

Metering is the time-proven TTL center-weighted averaging variety, in all exposure modes. The spot-metering mode provided with the original 230-AF is absent on the new camera.

## FLASH

The 230-AF Super's built-in pop-up flash unit (ISO 100 guide number 36, in feet) works on the flashmatic principle employed by compact 35s: It sets the aperture according to the flash-to-subject distance, as measured by the camera's AF system. It's not TTL flash, but it has the advantages for point-and-shooters of automatically providing small apertures at close shooting distances to maximize depth of field, and large apertures at great shooting distances, to maximize flash range; and it keeps the background from influencing the exposure. (However, it requires you to use the camera in manual-exposure mode, and calculate exposure compensation, when using AF extension tubes or the AF converter.) The built-in unit also provides a preflash mode, in which it fires twice in one second, the first flash stopping down the subjects's eyes to reduce red-eye, and the second flash