Picture-perfect day at school
Davie students enjoy photo shoot featuring Dolphins’ wide receiver

By Scott Fishman
STAFF WRITER

Photographer Marc Serota recently staged a shoot with the Miami Dolphins’ Roberto Wallace at University School at Nova University in Davie as a demonstration for students.

Serota snapped pictures of the wide receiver in three looks for his website, giving photography students an inside look at what goes into a photo shoot.

“One of the most important things I wanted them to understand was there are major principles of getting these projects done,” said Serota, an alumnus of the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale.

He stressed the importance of staying on budget and on schedule, even if the talent/athlete doesn’t. Wallace provided an example of this when his arrival was delayed. Serota told students that they need to show patience and understanding because things often come up.

Serota has covered everything from the Elian Gonzalez saga and presidential inaugurations to the interrogation of al-Qaeda/Taliban detainees in Guantanamo Bay after 9-11. Serota has mostly turned his attention to sports and South Florida’s pro teams in recent years.

Digital photography/visual arts teacher Judie Jackowitz said the session provided lessons not covered by any textbook or instructional manual.

“It was great because you hear about artists who are photographers, but this is someone who is in the business of sports photography. It’s a very competitive profession to be in,” she said. “We have a state-of-the-art lab and this whole campus to shoot. ... Bringing in guests like Serota provides a great learning tool.”

Sixth-grader Chiara Omsky’s favorite subject to photograph is her dog. Though there weren’t any pets involved, she found the photo shoot to be beneficial. “It’s teaching me a lot, and I hope I can learn from it,” she said. “Photography is a hobby I would do for the rest of my life.”

Ninth-grader Amanda Lowitz, who has won several photography contests, agreed. “I like taking pictures of people, candid shots and portraiture,” she said. “It’s a good experience to see how a real photo shoot happens. It’s something I can take from for the future.”

Scott Fishman can be reached at smfishman@tribune.com.