



The Eye of the Beholder

Knight Ridder photographers share their visions

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“Everybody has a story to tell. The camera allows me to get close to people to share their views, fear and joy. Understanding comes first, and only then does my camera. Everybody has vision. The effort is in developing it. I strive to put forth that effort for my community. People glance at a newspaper page for an average of three seconds. If the visual is powerful enough to fixate their attention, they might dig for more.”



Nick Oza

The Macon Telegraph



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he served on Knight Ridder's war team in Iraq, he says. Initially disappointed to be assigned to a group of Navy Seabees on bridge-building duty instead of to a combat unit, Oza changed his attitude when the combat engineers told him, "Someone has to document our part in this war."

"I realized that my job is to record life on film, regardless of where that may be," Oza said. "Great journalism is everywhere."

Oza brings a Zen-like quality to his photos. "You have to show love and respect when you're taking a picture of someone because when they're comfortable with you, you can see the soul," he said. "You have to understand the craft and use your own vision. A camera is just a box. You have to have the vision." ><

>KNIGHT RIDDER>

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