

# PSH NEWS

## Paintings show TMI in a new light

*Cecilia Fox  
Special to the Capital Times*

Familiarity can breed art--if the current exhibit in the Gallery Lounge is any indication.

"Inner Visions" focuses our attention on a commonplace institution, family, and a foreboding fixture of the campus environment, the Three Mile Island nuclear plant. Then the artists show us what we have forgotten how to see.

Cheri Yohe, art teacher at the Harrisburg Magnet School and graduate student here, gives us a unique view of the nuclear facility, which is not far from the home in Goldsboro where she has lived for the past two years.

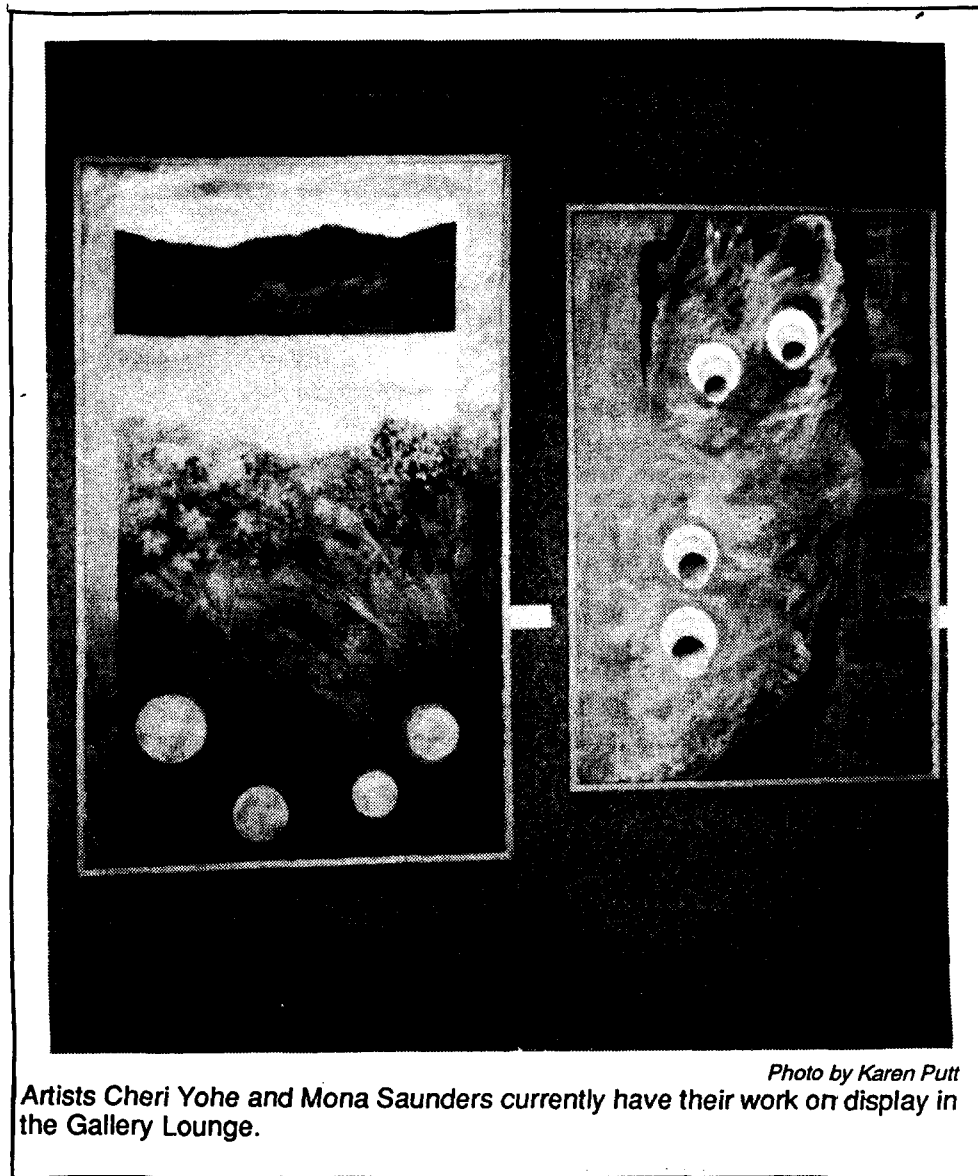
"TMI is always there," she said. "When I'm walking the dog or looking out the window, I can always see it."

Throughout this series of paintings, she distills technology into its simplest visual forms. In "Spring on the Susquehanna," Yohe places stark, hard-edged circles that represent the cooling towers onto an otherwise ordinary landscape.

"The Awakening" reverses this pattern: four orange-red circles leap from an inky background. The largest, frames the organic curves of the artist's face that rise dramatically from the flat painting.

Recurring technological images tie it all together, for the works span a wide range of technique and style, from abstract to representational. Bright color dominates, but brushwork varies from loose, foggy strokes to tight, precise smoothness.

The intellectual focus of Yohe's work sets off the emotional pull of the other half of the show.



Artists Cheri Yohe and Mona Saunders currently have their work on display in the Gallery Lounge. Photo by Karen Putt

Approaching Mona Saunders multi-media display is like stepping into a huge scrapbook. The impression of a

family album enlarged and enriched with items of memorabilia is not accidental. First of all, Saunders painted these

moody portraits from actual photos of her relatives.

"I photocopied snapshots," she said. "The paintings are three times removed from the real person. The black-and-white copy gave me enough distance to work."

Saunders' project started as a formal exercise, but the emotional content quickly took over, shaping the nature of the work. The series hops from tombstones to babies, weddings to soldiers, just as our memories do.

Actual objects pinned to the gallery walls or set about its floors complement the paintings, and they too are as varied as lives. Buckskin and pewter set off sequins and plastic. The motorcycle would have been a more effective focal point if it hadn't been hidden behind the Gallery's piano.

All the portraits are done in oil on an acrylic ground. The two-toned color scheme of the works makes them into bright negatives, somehow reminiscent of silkscreening. The tight brushwork also enhances the photographic negative effect.

People are paired with animals in many of the paintings because pets are a natural part of a family. "The Huntress" is an accurate depiction of a dog's soul. "Mom and the Prize Goat" shows a small girl astride an unusual mount.

Walking through this giant scrapbook that uses walls instead of pages hints at the art of making a family. These colored shadows filtered through the memory of an artist bring imagination home.

The inner visions of Cheri Yohe and Mona Saunders will inhabit the Gallery Lounge through May 10.

## Sex drives professor to research

*T.J. Brightman  
Capital Times Staff*

Students snicker, faculty aren't much better and, as one student put it, Michael Becker gets tagged as the "sex man" on campus.

"Sex, sex, sex, that's all he ever thinks about," said James F. Rooney, a colleague of the 37-year-old assistant professor of psychology who happens to do research on peoples sexual fantasies.

Becker, an assistant professor of social psychology, admits one could certainly study less interesting topics, but believes sex research is no different than any other.

"It is an important aspect of human behavior that we know very little about," said the Boston native in his pronounced New England twang. "The ribbing simply comes with the territory."

Becker, who has been conducting research on sexual fantasies since 1989, first became interested in the subject as a graduate student at the State University of New York at Albany where he studied the sexual behavior of people of different personality types.

Becker said his sexual fantasy work

takes a different tack from previous work.

Researchers previously tried to classify a person's sexual fantasy by comparing it to similar fantasies.

"Classifying is far too simplistic for such a complex subject," Becker said. His research uses questionnaires to

determine in more detail the content of sexual fantasies.

Becker's subjects--students, some from Penn State Harrisburg--write down a sexual fantasy they had experienced in the past three months. Becker then posed questions about the content of their fantasy. For example:

--Where does your sexual fantasy take place?

--How old are you in your fantasy?

--How aggressive are you in your fantasy?

Males and females were then asked

See Becker, page 8



### Susquehanna Institute

Comprehensive, Private Counseling, Psychological and Education Services

Dr. Edward S. Beck, CCMHC, NCC, Director

Licensed Psychologists, Social Workers & Counselors

- Vocational & Career Transition Counseling
- Psychological Testing
- Marriage & Family Counseling
- Singles/Couples
- Blended/Step-Families
- Educational Planning and Study Skills
- Children, Adolescent, Adults
- Personal Counseling & Psychotherapy
- Substance Abuse
- Psychiatric, Medical and Legal Consultation Available

232-4900

24 hours  
7 days a week

Accepting new clients,  
patients & referrals

Hours By Appointment  
Evenings & Weekend Appointments  
Most Insurances Accepted  
Affordable sliding-fee scale  
10% off All Services With This Ad

Beaufort Professional Center  
1820 Linglestown Road, Suite 2  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-3339