

Computers for kids

By Kevin Luffman
Staff Reporter
klw5016@psu.edu

Five to 15 million children around the globe, excluding those in the United States, are going to have an opportunity like no other. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology Media Lab's co-founder/chairman Nicholas Negroponte and his team announced the project of 'one laptop per child' in January 2005.

The goal of this project is straightforward, yet unattainable. Children do need access to the Internet for learning in public schools in every country, that's a fact - and to market the Linux-based computer only to five countries - South Africa, China, Brazil, Thailand, and Egypt

seems a bit biased. Though, the issue at hand seems to be whether or not there is a demand for this product. The answer is overwhelmingly yes.

The prototype is being assembled and tested as we speak, and mass production of the laptops may begin in November 2005. The clandestine nature of Negroponte himself about his project seems not to be concerned with production efficiency and equality for less fortunate information-seekers, but rather a way into fame. Fortunately, his idea is being supported by some major players in computer manufacturing (Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.) and information technology (Google, Inc.), a combination that could lead to these laptops as more of a collector's item

for second-generation users. According to The Patriot-News, plans for upgrades to the laptops have not been discussed nor has a system to insure or provide a service plan of any type, like many domestic laptops sold in the United States. The veil of secrecy about this project, in other words, may eventually cause future ideas to be discredited. Although the laptop described may "work," the question is, will there be a demand once they are in popular use - and will the demand for the laptop still be high then? Not likely in my opinion.

if not somewhere around the world.

Hurricane Katrina has indeed deeply affected the United States' economy, deftly defying human capacity to restore, as did the tsunami in the Indian Ocean of December 26, 2004.

I believe it is imperative to continue to make strides in these types of projects, but only when needed or, at least, when demanded. Since when has MIT become "laptops-for-less?" The value at stake: victims of natural disaster, war, poverty, famine and civil unrest, currently or in the future, need not worry about saving \$100 to buy one of these laptops.

Away from personal, each sale brought to the five initial companies involved may keep their profit and revenue high thus benefiting the economy, locally,

Women learn how to defend

By Kathryn Herr
Editor in Chief
kah928@psu.edu

Late at night you're walking home to your dorm alone. As you round the corner a man appears out of nowhere and approaches you, grabs your wrist and pulls you down an ally. He tells you not to scream or he'll kill you as he throws you against a wall. You think you're dead already.

It doesn't even have to be a late night walk home; it could be a walk around the fitness trail during gym class or an evening shopping

how to use 'personal weapons'. She also teaches women to make visual pictures of the attacker to describe him to police.

Women are taught to use their 'personal weapons', which are different parts of the body to defend themselves in five different ways.

"Each situation is totally different, so I teach different options that are available," said Allshouse.

Women are shown different self-defense tactics and then practice with the instructor. They are taught voice commands such as 'get back' or 'no'.

students 90 percent of rape and sexual assault victims knew their attacker prior to the assault according to Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape. In a similar survey from PCAR 13.3 percent of female college students say they have been forced to have sex in a dating situation.

Emergency call boxes are located throughout the campus. These call boxes are connected to the Dauphin County dispatcher immediately when the button is pushed, and the campus police can be dispatched in a matter of

minutes.

Women 16-24 are most vulnerable to assault according to NSDI. The average college student is 18-24, which is why Allshouse feels the SAFE classes are so important for PSH students.

"It is important for people to educate themselves in these subjects," said Allshouse.

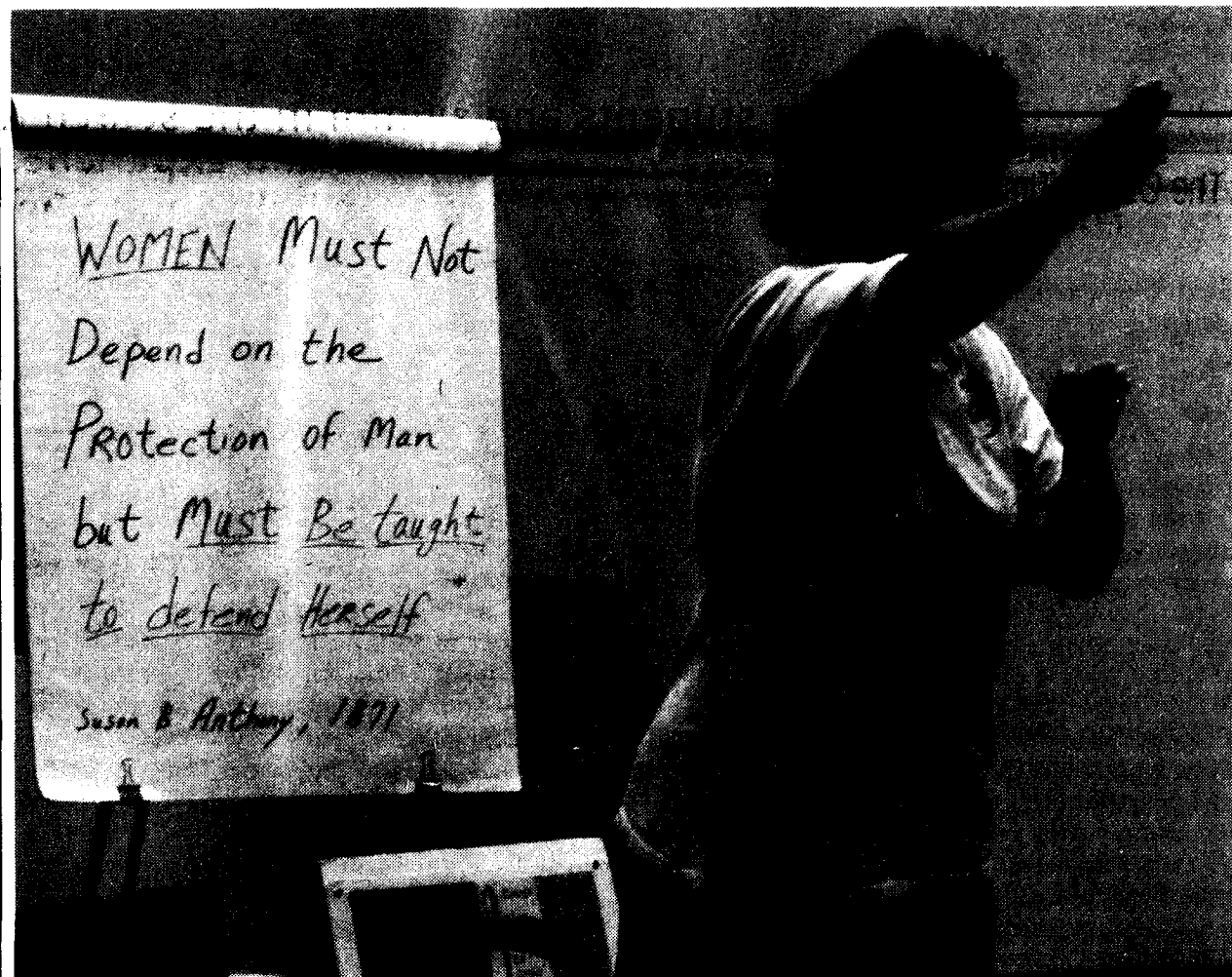
NSDI lists eight myths of rape: 1. it can't happen to me, 2. women are powerless against rape, 3. women secretly want to be raped, 4. only young, attractive women are raped, 5. only women with bad reputations are raped, 6. only women who wear sexy, revealing clothes are raped, 7. only women who are out alone at night get raped, 8. rapists are sex maniacs- perverts- with overactive sex drives.

"These are life long skills and we can use them everyday." Skills can be passed on to female friends and family as well. Women are encouraged to practice the techniques to remain mentally prepared at all times.

"I want our department and everyone to feel comfortable coming to us with anything, but especially rape or assault," said Allshouse. "I want to decrease the chance of anyone on campus being assaulted."

Carry a cell phone if you have one, drink responsibly, and be aware of your surroundings are a few suggestions Allshouse has for college students to avoid an attack.

To learn more about the SAFE program contact Officer Jennifer Allshouse at jau1@psu.edu.



Officer Jennifer Allshouse demonstrates self-defense tactics during her SAFE class on Tuesday. The SAFE class teaches women how to defend themselves during an attack.

trip at the mall. An assault can happen at any time to anyone and knowing how to defend yourself could be the difference between life and death.

Officer Jennifer Allshouse offers a two-hour Self-defense Awareness and Familiarization Exchange (SAFE) class at Penn State Harrisburg to teach women how to defend themselves in the event of an attack or to avoid a possible attack. Allshouse taught a SAFE class on Tuesday, Oct. 18, in the Community Center at 9 p.m.

"90 percent of self-defense is being mentally prepared," said Allshouse. Positive visualization is key. Imagine living through the attack, thinking about someone in your life that needs you. The goal is to survive the attack and the key to survival is being prepared.

Allshouse teaches physical movements and tactics that may give women a chance to deter an attacker or impair him long enough to run away. The class is about knowing your options and

"When your life is being threatened, I tell my girls anything goes," said Allshouse.

National Self Defense Institute statistics show every minute approximately "1.6 rapes and 11 physical assaults are perpetrated against women."

"Alcohol puts people at a greater risk of assault," said Allshouse. Lowered inhibitions and awareness results from drinking alcohol. The increasing popularity of 'date rape' drugs makes drinking at the bar much more dangerous.

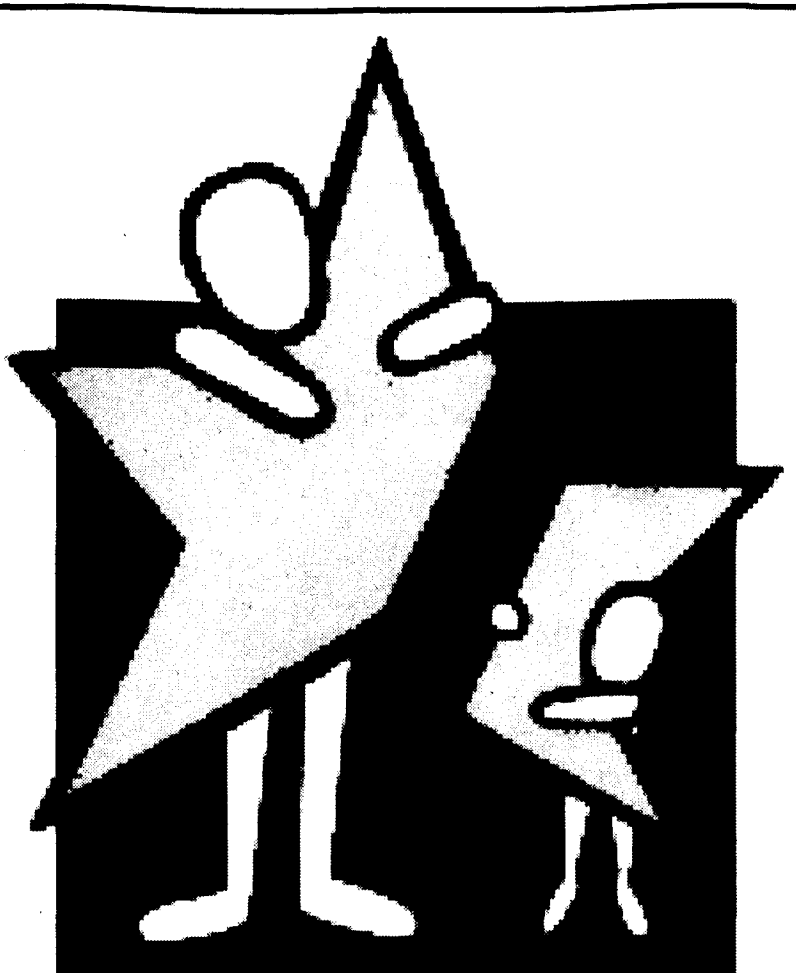
Get your drink yourself and never take your eyes off it is advice Allshouse has for college students. 'Date rape' drugs are colorless, odorless, and often tasteless, making them almost undetectable. Sometimes 'date rape' drugs can sometimes have a salty taste and can have effects such as amnesia, drowsiness, nausea, sweating, vomiting and impaired motor functions, just to name a few.

Of surveyed female college



Photos by Ashley Lockard/The Capital Times

Allshouse poses as an attacker using safty mats in order for her students to practice the valuable skills they learn there.



**EMBRACING DREAMS
SHARING TOMORROW
PENN STATE IFC/PANHHELLENIC
DANCE MARATHON 2005**

**HERE WE GO NOW, HERE
WE GO NOW, HERE WE
GO NOW, HERE WE GO
NOW. HEY LIONS, TIME
TO ROAR, THON IS HERE
AND BACK FOR MORE
SHARE A SMILE, HUG A
CHILD, REC HALL IS
GOIN WILD!**



Wear
your THON
bracelet to Coldstone

Creamery to help raise money
FOR THE KIDS and save
some money
too.

**ON OUR FEET
TWO DAYS
STRAIGHT,
WE ARE PENN
STATE!!!!**