

San Jose State University 150th Anniversary

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SPARTAN DAILY

Fees to go up 'roughly \$300 next year'

LUKE STANGEL
STAFF WRITER

The cost of education for most San Jose State University students is expected to jump by roughly \$300 next year, to cover state budget cuts and the renovation of two buildings on campus, state and university officials said Monday.

The California State University Board of Trustees last week approved a 10 percent tuition increase for the

coming school year. The board indicated it would likely raise tuition again next year.

Separately, SJSU President Don Kassing is considering a \$40 increase in campus fees next year, to pay for the proposed renovation of the Student Health Center and the Student Union, Budget Director Cynthia Haliasz said.

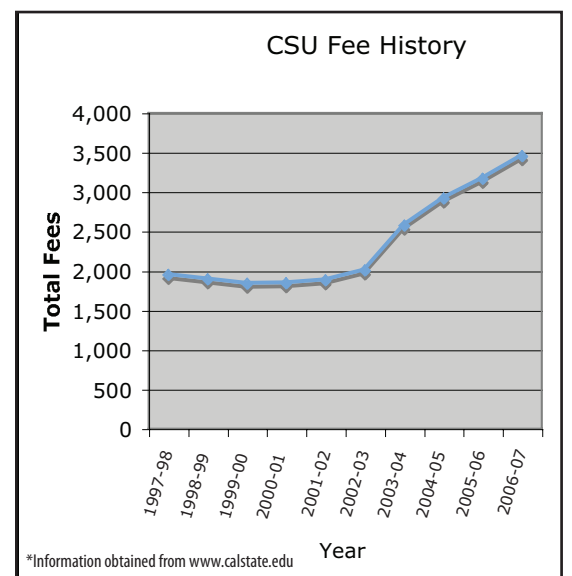
Full-time, undergraduate students at SJSU currently pay roughly \$3,300 per year in tuition and campus fees. If the proposed increases are approved, those students

would pay \$3,588 per year.

"Student fees are part of the overall revenue mix that is needed to sustain our outstanding university system," said CSU Board of Trustees Chair Roberta Achtenberg, in a news release. "... Currently, employee compensation for all employees accounts for 74 percent of the expenditure budget.

"The trustees are committed to bringing all sala-

see FEES, page 5



1st Black Thursday convenes at SU

Yael Reed Wachspres
STAFF WRITER

Although it is open to everyone, about 60 African-American San Jose State University students mingled in the Student Union for the first official Black Thursday of the spring semester.

"Since there is not a lot of black students on campus, this gives us a chance to see each other to meet and mingle," said Zeke Staples, a senior majoring in kinesiology and one of the coordinators for the event.

Pauline Chege, a senior majoring in health science and director of events for the National Pan-Hellenic Counsel Inc., which consists of all nine of the African-American Greek organizations, helped organize and promote the event.

"It's a tradition of SJSU to once a month to have, not just Greek, but all black organizations and students ... to see what black organizations are on campus," Chege said.

Staples said that all of the black organizations on campus were invited, including the Black Student Union, the Black Alliance of Scientists and Engineers and the Nigerian Student Association.

According to Raysean Ford, a junior majoring in sociology and vice president of Delta Rho fraternity, the black community at SJSU in the past was not as strong. The concept for Black Thursday was originally an event created at SJSU for the African-American students to fellowship.

"I want to fellowship with my fellow black students and enjoy meeting new people," Ford said. "I want to make the black community on this campus stronger."

Black Thursday, which occurs every third Thursday of the month throughout the semester, was relocated from the amphitheater at noon to the music room at 9 p.m. for more personal communication among students, Staples said. Also,

see THURSDAY, page 3



PHOTOS BY STEPHANIA BEDNAR/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
ABOVE: John Ross, a senior majoring in chemical engineering, and Julie LaRoche, an alum from San Jose State University, spend time at Peanuts. BOTTOM RIGHT: Ross pours a glass of beer for himself.

Drinkers earn more, study says

ROSSA DOÑO
STAFF WRITER

Drinking alcohol or beer could help you earn more money in the business world, according to a study published in the Journal of Labor Research.

Edward Stringham, an economics professor at San Jose State University and co-author of the social drinking study said, "There are many people who assume that drinking is necessarily bad for you, but our data suggests that responsible, social

drinking is a potentially productive activity.

"We found that people who socially drink, on average earn 10 to 14 percent more than non-drinkers," Stringham said.

Stringham and his co-author Bethany Peters surveyed 8,000 people, asking them questions about their characteristics, including marital status and income, Stringham said.

"I heard that you're more social," said

see STUDY, page 3



The average male drinker earns	The average female drinker earns	Among full-time workers the average male drinker earns	The average female drinker earns
21	8	19	23
percent more than the average male abstainer.	percent more than the average female abstainer	percent more than the average male abstainer	percent more than the average female abstainer

By the numbers: Social drinking

*Information obtained from "No Booze? You May Lose: Why Drinkers Earn More Money Than Nondrinkers," by Bethany L. Peters and Edward Stringham

Writer shares Mongolian experience

ADAM BROWNE
STAFF WRITER

About 30 people attended the lecture and book signing of Michael Kohn's travels in the country of Mongolia on Wednesday night in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library at San Jose State University.

He wrote two books, "Dateline Mongolia: An American Journalist in Nomad's Land" and "Lama of the Gobi: The Life and Times of Danzan Rabjaa."

Kohn began with a bit of his journalistic background and his reasons for wanting to travel the world following his education at University of California Santa Barbara. "I wanted to join the Peace Corps, but their first assignment for me was Mongolia," Kohn said. "At the time it was the last place I wanted to go, but then I was offered a job at Mongol Messenger and ended up going there anyway, so I wanted to make the best of it."

Kohn said that although the country of Mongolia is three times the size of France, it has only 2.8 million people, and is one of the least densely populated nations on earth.

He also said that they are trying to encourage people

to marry and have children to increase the population.

Cesar Serrano, a senior majoring in political science, is part of Global Conversations, a student organization on campus.

"I heard about this through Aurelia Figueroa," Serrano said. "The discussion was great because you never

see KOHN, page 5

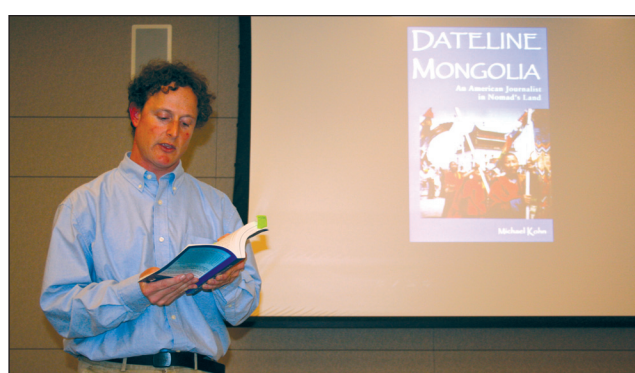


PHOTO BY STEPHANIA BEDNAR/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Michael Kohn, an author and journalist who works for Lonely Planet and the Associated Press, gave a talk on his experiences working in Mongolia on Wednesday in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library.

Proposed retrofit may cost students

MARK POWELL
STAFF WRITER

The Student Union faces expansion, renovation and seismic retrofitting over the next five years in a massive campus facilities overhaul that would be paid for by San Jose State University students if it happens, school officials said.

According to the Executive Director of the Student Union, Cathy Busalacchi, SJSU students took part in focus groups and surveys over the last two years to inform university officials of renovations or additions they would like to see for the Student Union, Health Center and Sport Club.

"The majority of the feedback has been real positive," Busalacchi said, citing a survey taken by 3,755 students last semester.

Student fees would be raised \$40 a semester each semester for four years to pay for the project, with an \$80 per semester increase for the fifth year, Busalacchi said.

"I'm definitely for it. Costs are not going to get any cheaper, you know?" said Robert Griggs, a senior majoring in aviation. "Eventually we're going to have to renovate the buildings and it will cost about the same. Let's get some new buildings while we're at it."

According to Busalacchi, the majority of the funding for facilities renovations projects would need to come from student fees because there are no state funds for repairing buildings like the Student Union.

The Student Union doesn't charge students to use rooms, according to Busalacchi, and 80-85 percent of costs are handled by student fees. A smaller percentage of funds come from concerts and other events held at the Student Union, Busalacchi said.

"The Student Union is operated by student fees," Busalacchi said. "And in the late 60s it was built by student fees." Busalacchi said that the fee increase would cover the cost of seismically retrofitting the Student Union before proceeding with aesthetic renovations.

University President Don Kassing said that the Student Union needs to be brought up to seismic standards.

"We have to retrofit for obvious safety reasons," Kassing said. "And current student fees won't support this need."

see RETROFIT, page 3

By the numbers	
3,755 number of students who responded to a facilities survey last semester	\$40 per semester increase for four years to help fund projects
1969 year that the Student Union was built	5 number of years for proposed completion timetable
\$80 per semester increase for the fifth year	

*Information obtained from Cathy Busalacchi, executive director of the Student Union

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MARCH 20, 2007

NEWS TUESDAY

Thursday- Event creates fellowship among students

Continued from page 1

around that time of the day it was hard to get students to stop and interact with one another.

"I think that people are a lot less intimidated, too, in a smaller room," Ford said.

"We wanted to take the time to make it big, and find alternative ways to make it better," Staples said. "We're having it at night because no one really shows up during the day."

"This is better but it seems like only black people are here, during the day we had a more mixed crowd," said Joe Udeoji, a senior majoring in health science and the president of the Nigerian Student Association.

Kayla Livingston, a sophomore majoring in hospitality management said, "I like it better inside. It's more personal."

"You get to interact with your fellow students. Plus, I haven't been to an event in a long time and it's fun to see everybody together," said Livingston.

In order to get things started Staples, one of the coordinators, initiated an icebreaker, which lasted only for about 10 minutes.

"Bring them all in the same room and now they have to talk," Staples said.

According to Alpha English, the event has lost some of its value. English, who is a member of Delta Rho and a graduate student, came to check out how well the undergraduates are representing the organization.

"It's 2007, not 2001. I'm used to back in the day, this is disappointing to me," said English.

Jenisha McCoy regional chair of the Black Alliance of Scientists and Engineers for the West Coast and a senior majoring in electrical engineering, attended.

"I know they had flyers, but I don't think a lot of people knew about it," she said. "I think it will be successful because not a lot of people have classes at night."

Chenece Blackshear, another member of the Black Alliance and a junior majoring in chemistry, was there for networking purposes among the other organizations on campus.

Anastasia Locklin, a sophomore majoring in psychology running for director of climate affairs, came to campaign and meet new people.

"During the day people are in and out of classes," said Locklin. "When they start having it consecutively and consistently, people will start to attend."

Juane Pruitt, the Black Thursday event chair and a sophomore whose major is undeclared, said that it was a group decision to move the event into this new location.

Study- Drinkers have networking advantage in social situations

Continued from page 1

Dean Ramos, a senior majoring in management information systems. "You talk to more people so it opens up opportunities."

People who go to bars and socially drink have the convenience of mingling with potential clients and business professionals, giving them the advantage of networking that non-drinkers don't have, Stringham said.

"If you drink too much and don't know your limits, no one will respect you. You have to find a balance," Ramos said.

One of the variables looked at whether people frequent bars Stringham said, "And people who did, earned seven percent more than people who didn't, so that's seven percent on top of the already 10 percent, more money than the person who does not go to bars or drinks."

Jose Romero, a senior majoring in justice studies, said that it makes sense because there's more room to network, and when people drink, it's easier to socialize.

"Even though you don't know a person, people ease up when they drink, and you never know, that person may work somewhere that may benefit you," Romero said.

When asked how this study could affect college students, Stringham said that it is much safer for students to drink in a responsible public place than in a private setting.

"Many students are going to drink no matter what, and given that, they should be drinking in responsible social settings, rather than home alone," Stringham said.

Mark Ulanday, a senior majoring in occupational therapy said, "I consider alcohol as medication, right after finals — straight to (the San Jose) Bar 'n Grill. Drinking has its positives and negatives, but everything in moderation."

Stringham was especially concerned with universities banning alcohol at certain school functions.

"One policy that might not be a good idea," Stringham said, "is the recent de-

cision by the California State University system to stop serving alcohol at football games."

"It's going to remove an area where students can engage in responsible social drinking, and it's going to mean students are going to engage in less responsible drinking."

Although the data did point to a higher income for those who socially drank, Stringham didn't think it was something that could help people financially.

"I had pretty much had just assumed that drinking was something people did just for fun," Stringham said. "I didn't think it increased

peoples earning, so I was surprised at the results. But after thinking about it and discussing the ideas, I think this is something that many businesses have known for a long time."

Stringham got involved with this study when his co-author Bethany Peters had the curiosity to run the study. He said it took about two years to complete the survey and the writing for the article.

The article, "No Booze, You May Lose, Why Drinkers Earn More Money than Non-Drinkers," was published in the Journal of Labor Research.

Retrofit- Planned renovation of SU would include plaza areas

Continued from page 1

Mugsy McCoy, a junior majoring in communications studies, said the current facilities at SJSU are more than acceptable when compared to those found at Tuskegee University in Alabama, a college he previously attended.

"Tuskegee has real old-school facilities," McCoy said. "But there's no major, big need at SJSU for renovations."

McCoy added that he most likely wouldn't be in favor of a fee increase to help fund the proposed building renovations.

"I wouldn't like that," McCoy said. "The Student Union and the Health Center are pretty decent."

Busalacchi said that the seismic evaluation of the Student Union may be completed by the end of 2007, with the actual retrofitting being finalized sometime in 2008. According to Busalacchi, the university has hired "another firm" as a second voice for checking the Student Union's architectural and constructional needs.

Possible partnerships, including donors or sponsors, are also possibilities to help ease costs, Busalacchi said.

In a town hall meeting held at the Student Union last Thursday, Busalacchi, Kassing and Vice President of Student Affairs Veril Phillips administered a presentation that outlined proposed costs and included artist renderings of potential reconstruction results.

Busalacchi said that renovations would expand the Student Union westward and create plaza areas where students could congregate, socialize or run special events.

"Right now, we don't have enough space for students," Busalacchi said.

In referencing possible renovations to SJSU's Student Union at the meeting, Busalacchi showed a slide show of pictures that included an image of a student gathering space at University of California, San Diego. According to Busalacchi, UCSD's version of a student gathering space was constructed in the late 1980s.

"That's how far behind we are," Busalacchi said. "Students already have that."

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College Preview Day is designed for prospective students and their families to learn about the College, including program overview sessions, campus tours and financial aid information.

Alexis Higlett, a senior attacker, keeps the ball away from Jazmin Brown, a senior utility player from Princeton University in Saturday's win over Princeton 22-9. The Spartans beat the University of Maryland the next day 10-6.



Nine wins in hand Spartans grab weekend wins

PHOTO BY LAUREN SAGAR/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sports page correction

On Thursday March 15, the sports page ran an article on the lacrosse club team at San Jose State University. The headline read "Lacrosse travels west to California; gains NCAA status" incorrectly inferring that SJSU gained NCAA Div. 1 status. Instead the SJSU lacrosse team is part of the developing Div. B Western Collegiate Lacrosse League.

Softball team wins, then loses

JOSH WEAVER

STAFF WRITER

The San Jose State University softball team split a pair of highly contested games with the visiting Mercer University Bears on Monday, winning the first game of the doubleheader 2-1 before dropping the second game 5-4.

The Spartans went ahead 1-0 in the bottom of the 3rd inning of game one when Elizabeth Perez, who led-off the inning with a walk, scored on designated hitter Sarah Smith's sacrifice fly.

Spartan starting pitcher Kelly Harrison pitched 6 1/3 innings allowing only four hits and striking

out six Bears' hitters.

Harrison said she was able to keep the Mercer hitters off balance the entire game.

"Our coaches mixed-up a lot of my pitches and I think that really helped," Harrison said.

Mercer was able to push across the tying run in the top of the 6th inning, but the Spartans answered back in the bottom half of the inning with a bang.

With two outs, Spartan shortstop Elizabeth Robertson belted a home run over the left field fence, putting the Spartans ahead 2-1.

"We only needed one run and I was just looking for a pitch where I could hit the ball hard," Robertson said. "She hung a pitch over the plate, I didn't think it was gone but I knew that I was on it."

Harrison was replaced with one out in the top of the 7th inning by pitcher Roxanne Bejarano, who promptly struck out two batters, preserving the win for the Spartans and picking up her third save of the year.

Head coach Peter Turner was pleased with the way his team was able to win a close ballgame, but was less than enthused about the way his team played during the doubleheader.

"We are not playing the way we are trained to," Turner said. "For the last six games we have been playing to the level of our competition, and (Mercer) is not a team that should beat

us. It is that simple, we are not executing."

Bejarano pitched seven strong innings in game two for the Spartans striking out three and giving up five unearned runs.

The Spartans struggled on defense during the second game committing four errors, leading to the five Mercer runs.

"Four errors is not what we are built around," Turner said. "We are built around solid defense and that didn't happen. We made some mistakes and that cost us."

Trailing 5-1 in the final inning the Spartans had runners on first and second with nobody out.

After plating one run, Brittnay McConnell doubled to center field driving in two runs and cutting the deficit to a single run with only one out in the inning.

The rally stopped there as Robertson grounded out — stranding the tying run on second base.

"We came out thinking we had it in the bag," McConnell said. "The first game we got lucky, we found a way to win."

"The second game we weren't there to back up our pitcher, I mean four errors is ridiculous," she said.

Turner plans on tightening up a few loose ends in practice this week before heading into Western Athletic Conference play.

"My concern right now is the way our approach is at the plate, we have to make adjustments," Turner said. "We also need to shore up our defense and be a lot sharper there."

The Spartans (14-12) begin conference play this weekend when they host New Mexico State University at SJSU Field. Game one of the Friday doubleheader is scheduled to start at 1 p.m.



PHOTO BY HANNA THRASHER/ STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Kelly Harrison, an undeclared junior, pitches against Mercer University yesterday at the Municipal Stadium


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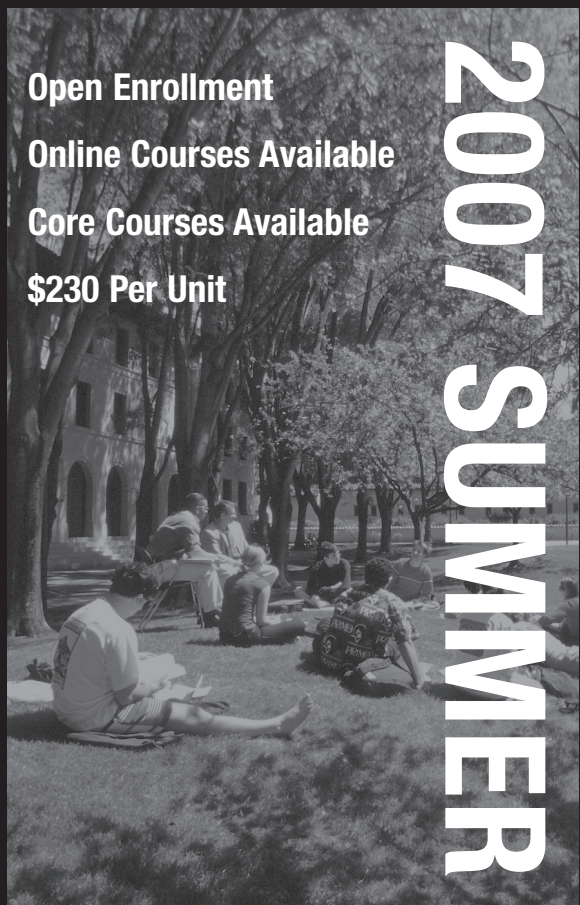
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Wednesday Afternoon

March 21, 2007

3:00 to 5:00 PM



Khaled Abu Toameh, is an award winning journalist and television news producer. He has reported from the West Bank and Gaza Strip for more than twenty years for both Palestinian and Israeli print publications, and acts as producer for television news programs in the US and Europe. Having built a reputation for unique and brave reporting on Palestinian affairs, he now produces for NBC and other major TV networks. He is also the Senior Palestinian Affairs writer for the Jerusalem Post. Khaled Abu Toameh, is an award winning journalist and television news producer. He has reported from the West Bank and Gaza Strip for more than twenty years for both Palestinian and Israeli print publications, and acts as producer for television news programs in the US and Europe. Having built a reputation for unique and brave reporting on Palestinian affairs, he now produces for NBC and other major TV networks. He is also the Senior Palestinian Affairs writer for the Jerusalem Post.

"In telling the story of my father's life, it's impossible to separate fact from fiction, the man from the myth. The best I can do is to tell it the way he told me. It doesn't always make sense and most of it never happened ... but that's what kind of story this is."

—Billy Crudup, 'Big Fish,' 2003

FROM AN ENTERTAINMENT PERSPECTIVE:

'The Vagina Monologues' offers a piece of mind

MEGAN WOOD

STAFF WRITER

If your vagina could talk, what would it say? If it wore clothes, what would it wear? These were just two of the questions raised at the Women's Resource Center's benefit performance of "The Vagina Monologues," which came to a close Friday night in Morris Dailey Auditorium.

"It was very informative and interesting — I liked how it brought hu-

mor but also dealt with serious and important issues," said Lydia Avelar, a senior majoring in psychology.

The performances were showcased Thursday and Friday night to raise funds for Asian Americans for Community Involvement's Asian Women's Home, Young Women's Christian Association Rape Crisis Center and Casa Amiga in Juarez, Mexico.

"This cause is very important to me, there are far too many people that think it's OK to treat women poorly," said Candy Price, a senior

majoring in theatre and one of the volunteer actresses. "I love performing, so to raise awareness through performing ties two major loves together."

The show is a compilation of many women's experiences with puberty, sex, rape and their overall feelings of being a woman.

"Women should not forget their vaginas or be ashamed of their bodies ... this year lets focus on empowering women and recognizing strong vaginas," said Nancy Del Castillo, this year's volunteer coordinator and active member in Santa Clara University's Women's Resources.

Both men and women attended the show, including Eduardo Higareda, a sophomore majoring in music education, who came to support his girlfriend and felt that the performance was "a great way for women to speak their minds and be heard, and supports a good cause."

And speak they did.

One part of the performance that, seemingly, had women nodding their heads was "My Angry Vagina" about the woes of womanhood.

First to be addressed was the discomfort of "dry, stiff tampons" and "would it kill someone to lubricate them?"

Next was the joy of the annual Pap smear, a pelvic examination that women endure to detect cancer and other abnormalities.

From the harsh metal stirrups to the nurse's encouraging, albeit laughable, "scoot down further dear, and RELAX" and finally, the frosty duck-lip calipers that aren't supposed to hurt, but do.

No stone was left unturned.

The women then shared their confusion over the fascination

of "butt-floss," or thongs and g-strings, and how regular cotton panties should be installed with "French Ticklers."

You know, for happier vaginas.

"I hope people realize that while it is a very entertaining show, these are real women's stories and real experiences ... it's serious too," Price said.

While the evening was mostly lighthearted and humorous, there were definitely somber moments that dealt with issues of rape and domestic violence.

One such experience was of a 13-year-old-girl who had been raped by her father's friend while he was over for poker night. The girl's father shot the man while he was raping his daughter and due to the incident, the girl's mother refused to allow the girl to see her father again.

Another monologue detailed the acid burnings of girls in the Middle East who lost their virginities or had been raped and therefore dishonored the family. The story described the fiery burn and the smell of melted skin, as well as the pain of being a hated member of the community.

It was monologues and stories like these that spoke truth to the statistic that every two and a half minutes someone is sexually assaulted in America, according to the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network.

One in six women will be victims of sexual assault, compared to one in 33 men. Meanwhile, only 41 percent of these crimes will be reported.

"Until the violence has stopped against women and girls, V-Day will continue and this show will continue," Del Castillo said.

MOVIE REVIEW:

South Korea creates a big scare on screen

RANIER RAMIREZ

STAFF WRITER

"The Host" is more than a typical horror-thriller monster movie — it also tosses together elements of comedy, social-political commentary and melodrama.

Released in South Korea in 2006, "The Host" is the top-grossing movie of all time from that country.

The movie begins with a U.S. scientist on a military base dumping toxic chemicals down a drain that flows into Seoul's Han River.

Years later, a giant mutated amphibious creature crawls out of the river, hungry for humans. The ensuing mass-panic scene is intense and humorous at the same time.

The monster is agile, yet clumsy for being about the size of a truck and looks like a mutated tadpole with legs. It has a nightmarish mouth that can open wide enough to swallow a human whole and has four sets of teeth lining its insides with a lizard-like tongue to top it off.

A slow-witted food stand worker, Park Gang-Du (Song Kang-Ho) watches in horror as his daughter, Hyun-Seo (Ko Ah-Sung), is snatched away by the monster.

The South Korean government, working under information from the U.S. Military, is led to believe that the monster is the "host" of a new virus that infected and killed an American soldier after a skirmish. All the people who came into contact

with the monster were forced to be quarantined, including Gang-Du, who had helped the soldier.

Later in the movie it seems like the monster is the least of their worries, as world organizations start to intervene, virus paranoia spreads to the local populace and the family gets separated.

Several times throughout the movie, suspense is raised as Hyun-Seo is seen trapped in the lair and trying to find a way out while the monster is away.

There are a couple of things that make this different from any other monster movie. One is that they don't delay and tease us by not fully showing the monster until far into the film — the initial rampage is about 12 minutes in.

Also, instead of showing large-scale reactions to the monster and having main characters that are scientists or soldiers, it focuses how one normal family is trying to fight against everything.

During some serious scenes, you can't help but to laugh at what's going on, such as when the monster chases down a slow-moving, plump man to eat, or when someone is handed an empty gun to fight. At the same time these things do not seem completely out of place and do not ruin the mood.

It's nice to see something different and new in theaters from time to time, but it is sad that many people will expectedly pass on this movie due to being from a foreign country and having subtitles.

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