

Protecting our oceans for the future

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For Behrend students, the mention of Lake Erie only brings the pictures of Presque Isle's beaches. But when Jean-Michel Cousteau came to Behrend on Tuesday, he shared the pictures of Lake Erie's potential future.

As the last speaker of Behrend's 2009-2010 Logan Speaker series, Cousteau, the son of the famous ocean explorer Jacques Cousteau, spoke to Behrend students and Erie residents, young and old, about the delicate balance of the Earth's water system.

"Today, I could not eat species of fish that I used to enjoy as a child," Cousteau said. "Mostly because those species are either too rare or because they were almost wiped out by human pollution."

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in the ocean, and the elegance of the sea turtles and blue whales. He also gave three reasons for the great amount of damage that the ocean has incurred.

"Our situation right now can be attributed to our practice of throwing away trash into the ocean, the amount of overfishing, and the inability to decide what and how to grow our food supply."

But he expressed with excitement that we now have the ability to change all that. "We can stop throwing away trash into our natural waterways. We can practice environmentally friendly practices. We all can do something."

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