

## Behrend Briefs

**SOC Meeting:** The Student Organization Council will hold its first reorganizational meeting on Thursday, Oct. 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the Reed Lecture Hall. A representative from each student organization is encouraged to attend.

**Commu Majors:** Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society in Communication will meet every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in Reed 116. Anyone interested in working with the group is encouraged to attend.

**Psychology Club Meetings:** If you are a Psyche major, minor, or just interested in Psyche, we invite you to join us at our meetings on Wednesdays at 12N in Reed 116.

**Psi Chi:** The National Honor Society in Psychology meets every Wednesday at 2 p.m. in Reed 116.

**Students Today for Tomorrows Earth:** Meetings are held every Tuesday from 12:15 to 1 p.m. in Reed 117 and every Wednesday from 5:15 to 6 p.m. in Nick 111.

**Nominations Sought For Teaching Awards:** Nominations for the George W. Atherton and Milton S. Eisenhower award for distinguished teaching are now available in the Office of Student Services. Completed nomination forms should be submitted to the Office of Student Services (898-6111), second floor Reed by Oct. 4, 1991.

**Support Groups:** Returning adult women begins next Tuesday 10/8 at noon in the Reed seminar room. Codependency Group for Healthier Relationships meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. at the Erie Hall conference room.

**Toronto Trip:** There is still room on the trip to Toronto on April 4-5, 1992 to see Les Miserables. The trip is open to all Behrend faculty, staff and students. Reservations and deposit are due ASAP. Bus/Hotel package is also available. Stop by the Provost's Office, Glenhill Farmhouse, for an itinerary and reservation form.

**Van Service Available:** Wesleyville United Methodist Church will be sending a van to campus every Sunday to take students to its 11 a.m. service. The van (brown with the name of the church on the side) will be in the Reed parking lot between 10:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Lunch will be provided after the service, then the van will return to campus.

**Peace Corps Teachers:** Jonathon Hall will talk about teaching in the Peace Corps to the Physics and Astronomy clubs on Tuesday, Oct. 8 at noon in Behrend Science room 106. All are welcome!

**Attention Provisional Students:** All students currently classified as PROVISIONAL will now be advised by the Division of Undergraduate Studies, first floor Reed. The DUS advisors are Oella Dougherty, Bidy Brooks, and Michael Chiteman. Please stop into the DUS with any academic questions.

**All Commu 001 Students:** Take Note: students are reminded that *The Collegian's* weekly meetings are held on Thursdays in Turnbull 203 at 6:10 p.m. Anyone interested in working for *The Collegian* is encouraged to attend.

# Brown blasts dams, nets, and oil spills

by Trish Entley  
for *The Collegian*

"Threats to the Global Ocean" was the topic of a talk given by David Brown of the Cousteau Society in the Reed Lecture Hall last Wednesday evening.

Brown told the audience that Lake Erie is part of the Global Ocean, and what affects the lake eventually affects the oceans of the world.

As an example, he told of the Beluga whales inhabiting the St. Lawrence Seaway which are endangered by the high levels of toxins flowing out from the Great Lakes.

Marine mammals, like the Belugas, occupy the top level of the food chain in the world's oceans, as do humans on the land portion of the Earth, which Brown referred to as the 'Water Planet.'

There are three threats to the Global Ocean, according to Brown.

"The first is mechanical destruction of habitat," said Brown. "One only has to look at the Mississippi River."

Straightening of the river, said Brown, has resulted in a shrinkage of the delta system.

"Topsoil is now washed down the river at a higher rate, sending soil into the ocean rather than the delta. The faster flow and the resulting ocean deposits have contributed to erosion of the delta (a valuable wetlands system)," he said.

Other examples of mechanical destruction, a world-wide problem, include dams such as the Aswan High Dam along the Nile, clear-cutting (mostly in poorer, third world nations), and poor farming habits.

The second threat, Brown said, is over-fishing, resulting in the

taking of smaller and smaller members of the population until there are no breeders left.

"Factory fishing boats can exhaust a whole population at once, while gill nets and drift nets will devastate whole area of an ocean," Brown said.

Drift nets are often discarded at sea. Being non-biodegradable, these nets can forever reek havoc on sea life.

*"It's a fallacy to believe the oceans are large enough to absorb all the pollution we put into them."*

-David Brown  
Cousteau Society

The third threat, he added, is pollution. The quantity and toxicity of pollutants is increasing in the Global Oceans, including PCBs and DDT.

Additionally, as these toxins move up the food chain, they become more and more concentrated.

"It's a fallacy to believe the oceans are large enough to absorb all the pollution we put into them," he said.

In the second half of his speech, Brown told us shipwrecks and other forms of pollution left behind wherever there is human activity. The Exxon Valdez oil spill resulted in the dumping of 11 million gallons of crude oil into the ecologically fragile

waters of Alaska.

"Oil soaked some beaches up to six feet deep so that, even though the top layer was cleaned off, oil continued to seep up repolluting the area," Brown said.

Marine mammals, birds, and even terrestrial animals such as bears foraging along the shore were, and will continue to be, hardest hit by the Valdez legacy.

Brown said he feels the double-hull law, had it been passed earlier, could have prevented this tragedy. He added that it is important for Americans to stop relying so heavily on fossil fuels.

Legislative action, for example, could force car makers to build the type of cars available in other countries which typically can get up to 70 miles per gallon.

Brown then shared some experiences aboard the Calypso with the audience, including rare documentation of killer whales in which the whales dove to catch sharks, brought them to the surface and played with them before eating them. Filmed in 1988 in Papua, New Guinea, it was the first documented example of the number one predator preying on the number two predator of the ocean.

Brown, 32, is a native of Ithaca, NY and a graduate of Cornell University. A member of the Cousteau Society and crew member of the Calypso since 1984, Brown said he followed the Cousteau Society for three months until he obtained an interview with Jacques and Jean-Michel Cousteau. He was hired the same day.

*Trish Entley is a 1991 Behrend graduate with a bachelor's degree in General Arts and Sciences.*

## Police Report

### False alarm summons three fire companies to Dobbins Hall

Brookside, Belle Valley and Lawrence Park firefighters were called to Dobbins Hall early Tuesday morning to check on an activated fire alarm. Firefighters determined the alarm was set off by the stairwell box.

#### Obscene Telephone Calls

Police and Safety officers are currently investigating several reports of obscene or harassing telephone calls to students in the past few days.

#### Hit and Run

Late Tuesday afternoon a student reported a hit-and-run accident had occurred in the Nick parking lot. Apparently, someone had backed into the student's compact car, damaging the rear bumper and hatch back.



### The Card Gallery

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