

SPORTS

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Cyclones baseball booster banquet

The Russellville Cyclones Booster Club hosted its fundraising "2011 Lead-Off Banquet" on Saturday. This year's event was held at the West Side Church of Christ in Russellville. A silent auction began at 5:30 p.m. followed by the dinner at 6:00 p.m. All Cyclones baseball players and coaches were in attendance.

This year the booster club was excited to have former Russellville Cyclone baseball player, professional speaker and author Paul Vitale as the guest speaker. Vitale presented his inspirational and motivational program "Succeeding in Life's Game... On and Off the Field."

Vitale grew up in Russellville with his parents Lou and Carole Vitale. A 1990 graduate of Russellville High School, Vitale played baseball for longtime Cyclones coach Denny McCrotty and for the American Legion team. He played outfield for the University of Central Arkansas in college and graduated with a degree in mass communications and journalism.

By following his dream of helping others find their niche in



Paul Vitale (seated center) of Russellville, a former Russellville Cyclone and UCA Bear, brought his talents as a professional speaker back to Russellville on Saturday for the Cyclones baseball booster club banquet.

life, Vitale has been one of the nation's most sought-after professional speakers and trainers. He travels the globe speaking to universities, school districts, corporations and associations about the importance of a positive attitude, strong work ethic and concepts vital to personal and

professional success. Vitale's message of affirmation has reached hundreds of thousands of people from all walks of life, and his expertise, energy and ability to encourage people to exceed their potential have been described by his audiences as extraordinary.