

# Ashley County Ledger

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Hamburg, Ashley County, Arkansas

## Students Hear Motivational Speaker Paul Vitale

*By Meagan Hensley*

Paul Vitale, a motivational speaker, spoke to the students of Hamburg High recently. He is the founder of Vital Communications, is an author of two books, and spends most of his time delivering his message of affirmation to people throughout America. A native of Russellville, Paul graduated from the University of Central Arkansas in 1995 with a degree in mass communications and journalism. He was welcomed into the auditorium at Hamburg High, Thursday, January 20.

The students warmed up to him and paid close attention to what he had to say. His presentation "A Hero Within" focused on four key principles: the power of choice, a name is a mark that we leave behind, people notice our actions, and the power of perception. These were all up-lifting points that he made throughout the assembly. The main point that Paul made to the students through the assembly was whether or not they think of themselves as heroes, students can all liberate their own heroism and inspire many lives. All of us can assist people in a positive way if we only allow our heroism to shine through.

He made the point that we share diversity with those around us. Lives can be changed with a simple hello, and individuals can feel ownership in the most basic things. The

students liked what Paul had to say and were very pleased with the presentation. Cassie Jo Sanderlin, a junior, liked Paul's presentation. She stated, "It was very inspirational. He was a very good speaker and did a great job of keeping our attention. I think it was a wonderful thing for him to visit Hamburg High."

Johnny Stanley, a senior, enjoyed the assembly. He stated, "It was cool, I like the things he had to say." Brittney Hollis, a junior, thought Paul did a wonderful job of speaking. She said, "I liked Paul and thought he was a great speaker. He really interacted with us as teenagers very well."



Student Council President Ashley Parker, Student Council Advisor Patti Meeks, and President of the Chamber of Commerce Kristie Akers met with speaker Paul Vitale.