

# Van Wert/Paulding OSU Alumni Club holds Spring Banquet Tuesday, April 8, 2008



**Paulding native Dr. John DeWitt spoke at this year's Van Wert/Paulding OSU Alumni Club Spring Banquet.**

Dave Mosier/*Van Wert independent*

While Ohio State Buckeye fans have plenty of opportunities to support the university they love, the OSU Alumni Club of Paulding and Van Wert Counties is happy to provide two more during the year: in the fall and the spring.

On Tuesday, April 8, the club held its spring banquet at JEHMMS Banquet Center, with approximately 100 people coming to eat, hear a guest speaker and raise money to provide scholarships to deserving local students who want to attend The Ohio State University.

This year's speaker was John DeWitt, a 1992 Paulding High School graduate who is team leader for Clinical Development and director of both the sports and orthopedic physical therapy residencies at Ohio State.

Dr. DeWitt talked about his experiences as a high school athlete and also had stories from his tenure as a seasonal assistant athletic trainer with the New England Patriots professional football team.

Although he admits not thinking much of current Patriots' quarterback Tom Brady when he first saw him on the sidelines, Dr. DeWitt said the thing he has seen in highly successful athletes, including Olympics and Special Olympics athletes, is the passion they bring to their sport. It's a quality he said everyone needs to have for the things they do in their lives.



The spring banquet is also the time when a new Buckaholic is anointed, and this year's super-fan was actually a couple, Dave and Pam Herminghuysen.

CONGRATULATIONS HERMS!!!

**Pam Herminghuysen signs the Buckeye hat and also puts on the Buckeye hat to signify she and husband Dave were the new Buckaholics for the coming year.**

Dave Mosier/*Van Wert independent*



**It was announced that the Van Wert/ Paulding OSU Alumni Club is awarding \$9,000 in scholarships to 47 local students this year.**



Two high school seniors, one from each county, will be receiving \$650 scholarships from the Ohio State University to attend OSU.

**Recipients receiving recognition were Rob Pond of Wayne Trace and Ethan Enyart of Van Wert.**

Kimberly Lowe, director of alumni clubs for the OSU Alumni Association, and Assistant Dean Mike Cunningham of the OSU Branch in Lima spoke briefly during the banquet. Cunningham said he was especially excited about the future of the branch campuses with the tightening of admissions guidelines on the main campus in Columbus.

Cunningham said that, because it is a Land Grant college, OSU must provide open enrollment opportunities, and that will now be done at the branch campuses, which should result in a more diverse student population at campuses like OSU-Lima. Students who spend a year at a branch campus and fulfill academic requirements can then move to the main campus.

In addition to the meal and speakers, club members also had the chance to win a variety of prizes and a 50/50 drawing.