



CHIEFTAIN PHOTOS/JOHN JAQUES

Area students take part in a MYLIFE program, themed 'My Choices,' on Tuesday in the banquet room at Nacho's restaurant.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Students lectured on life

During 'junior version' of Leadership Pueblo

BY JON POMPIA
THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

Life, more than 90 future leaders learned, is all about choices.

Specifically, making those that will enhance, not hinder, one's walk on Earth.

"My Choices" was the theme for Tuesday's session of MYLIFE, a "junior version" of Leadership Pueblo designed to inspire area eighth-graders toward a life marked by education, civic engagement, leadership and professional development.

An eight-month program under the El Pomar banner, the Multicultural Youth Leadership Initiative for Excellence strives to meet its objectives through themed sessions like "My Community," "My Future," "My Diversity" and "My Integrity," held at various locations with

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rotating presenters.

Tuesday at Nacho's restaurant, the focus was on positive decision-making, with Troy Davenport, deputy chief of police, inspiring the young collective with his insight and advice.

"Sometimes, bad things happen to good people," Davenport said. "But in the end, it's much more about how you deal with that and carry on versus letting it have you draw into a turtle shell.

"You can overcome that. You have that within you. So don't ever give up. Don't ever give up on yourself, on your hometown or on these people who care so much about you."



Troy Davenport, deputy chief for the Pueblo Police Department, talks to the students about overcoming negative events in their lives.

SEE MYLIFE, 2B



It's knowing what I
can do with my life that's
fascinating. MYLIFE
encourages me to make
something of my life by
expanding my horizons.

ELOUISE ARMIJO
LIBERTY POINT
INTERNATIONAL
STUDENT
