

Romney gives ingredients for success

By BARBARA UNDERWOOD

Life's most precious prizes are within a grasp, former Gov. George Romney told Bloomfield Hills high school students Wednesday.

But the prizes are not the result of luck or chance, he added. They are the result of choices.

Romney was the third speaker in this year's Lyceum series in the Bloomfield Hills high schools.

He compared life to the television show, "Let's Make a Deal," in which contestants decide whether to keep a gift they have or trade it for another unseen item of unknown value.

"Life is a good deal like that," he said. "It is shaped by choices, but in life the choices are much more precious than what the contestants win or lose on the television show."

"AND IN life you have accurate clues," Romney continued. "You are seldom lucky or unlucky. My definition of luck is 95 per cent when preparation meets opportunity."

He told the students whether they cared or didn't care that they already were becoming what they were going to be 50 years from now.

"If you establish goals, objectives and desires and if you are willing to

pay the price, you can be what you want to be," he said. "Everyone here has gifts and talents to be developed."

Romney listed four gifts that he said each student had:

- "You have an American heritage, you are citizens of the most successful nation the world has ever seen.
- "You have the opportunity to acquire whatever preparation you need for the rest of your life, whether you are rich or poor.
- "You have freedom of choice in a vocation, you can elect what you want to be. It is better to be a skilled craftsman than a mediocre lawyer or doctor.
- "You have the freedom to choose what you believe and what you believe will shape what you do."

Their heritage is their opportunity, Romney told the students, adding, "Whether you take advantage of it remains to be seen."

The three-time Michigan governor and former U.S. secretary of housing and urban development was born to Mormon parents and has been a dedicated worker for the church his entire life. He spent two years in his late teens as a Mormon missionary in the British Isles.

Since 1974 he has been chairman of



Former Michigan Gov. George Romney compares life to the television show "Let's Make a Deal." (Staff photo by Stephen Contrell)

the board of the National Center for Voluntary Action.

Romney's religious beliefs came through when he discussed "the three most precious things you have—health, opportunity for happiness and

a chance to live life so as to have life eternal."

"Many of you trade your health for junk food, too much food, tobacco, alcohol, drugs and lack of exercise," Romney said. "Mental, moral and

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—George Romney

spiritual health are more important than physical health."

Having a career is "being peddled as the most important thing you can go out and do," he continued. "I am not saying don't prepare yourself for a career, but just going into the world to work is not the most rewarding thing and will not necessarily bring you happiness."

His remarks about careers pertained largely to women, but he also said that men can over-emphasize the importance of their careers in their lives.

"Nothing brings greater joy and happiness than a successful marriage and children and living according to principles that will bring happiness."

There is absolutely no success that can compensate for that," Romney said. When he told of an acquaintance whose only son "became a drug addict and delinquent," a ripple of laughter went through the audience.

"That's not funny, that's tragic,"

Romney shot back. "Only those who have been through it know it."

HE DEPLORED what he called the general "loss of belief in a creator, in the most important knowledge there is." That loss is causing people to be confused although they have more knowledge than ever before, he believes.

"I have talked about things today that are contrary to the way many high school students live today," Romney said. "But I believe them and I talk about these things because I believe they are important."

"If you want life's greatest prizes you have to take steps to earn them. On the television show you only have one chance. In life you get more than one. You can stop and start over."

"Make a deal to make your life as rich as possible and I hope you will earn some of life's greatest prizes," he concluded.

Vandals hit Hills

(Continued from page 1A)

argued that public knowledge could bring help and sympathy from the rest of the city.

Some suburban residents feel isolated from their neighbors, Richard Lobenthal of the Anti-Defamation

League told the group at Warner. Many residents don't know their neighbors. If that's the case, vandalism based on ethnic slurs finds a companionable atmosphere, he said. Neighbors are reluctant to share their knowledge of the incidents, Lobenthal said.

Funds up for MD

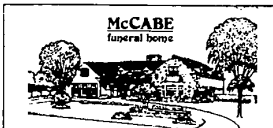
About \$800 was collected for the Muscular Dystrophy drive by North Farmington High students recently. NFHS instructor Ed Wright announced that 20 of his students worked for three days at local stores assisting him in the fund drive.

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