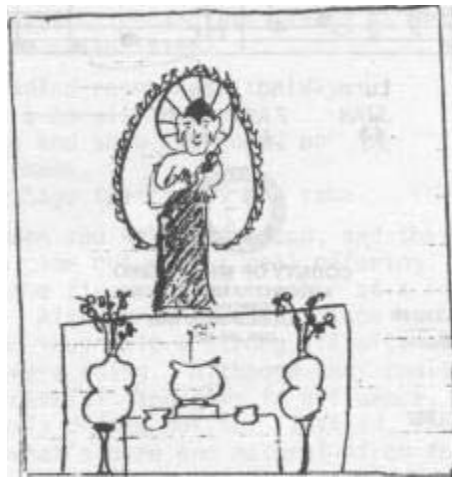


# BUDDHIST NEWS: TRAVEL SECTION

-by Kuo T'o age 12, Cultivating Virtue Secondary School, January 3, 1983

Going down to L.A., I noticed the pollution was very bad and the people there are into killing and stealing, not including all the other bad habits. So I think it is a good thing that the Sino-American Buddhist Association built a monastery there. Maybe in the future all people around there will stop all evil and do only good.



While down there at Gold Wheel Monastery, I helped get things in order for the opening on January 2, 1983. People from all over came to help. These people put up signs, vacuumed, swept, worked on roofs, hauled wood, cooked, moved tables and chairs and so forth.

The day came. We started with the *Amitabha Sutra* and recited the Buddha's name. Then I went to help with directing traffic. The ribbon was cut and the light on the Buddha was opened. Before cutting the ribbon, we sang a song. During the lecture I was in the lobby handing out walnuts from the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas when a woman came running in with pictures in her hand. She showed us pictures she had taken of the Buddha downstairs. They all had white light coming from this one spot that was red, and we saw the image of the Buddha appear in it. Afterwards, we encouraged her to talk about it and she did. When the lecture was over and people walked out of the Buddhahall, this other Chinese man and I watched a Kuan Yin Bodhisattva statue. It was moving! Then we had a liberation of life ceremony and let four hundred turtles go in the L.A. River. I think everybody had a good time.