



花車遊行聖城再奪首獎



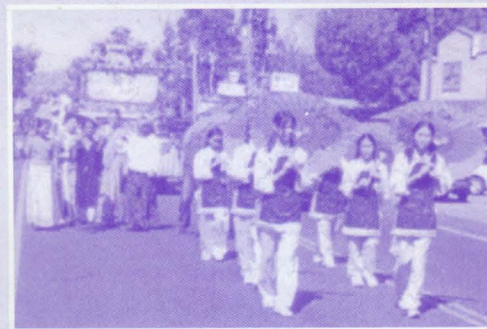
CTTB Float Wins First Place in County Parade Again

9月22日星期日，曼都仙諾郡舉行一年一度的蘋果季花車遊行，萬佛城以「同體大悲」為主題的花車設計，再次贏得了同類節目的冠軍獎。此次參加花車遊行行列的同學、家長，及老師們，共60多位。花車行列的車首，是由一輛小卡車頂著全長 80 呎的青龍，龍尾則安置於卡車後方的拖車上；車身兩旁布置為海浪及雲朵。拖車上載著16位同學，分別穿著代表中國、印度、墨西哥、愛爾蘭、奈及利亞、美國，以及其他各國的傳統服飾；家長、老師，及朋友們，則舉著法界佛教總會的旗幟，隨後而行。

第二輛花車則是由一位學生扮成白衣觀音大士，在綴滿花朵的傘蓋下，比丘尼及小班的同學們圍繞著觀音菩薩唱「南嘛呢叭彌吽」六字大明神咒。

花車遊行在朋維爾城的主街上市舉行，花車行列所到之處，兩旁群眾不斷揮手鼓掌，甚至跟著誦咒。當聖城花車行至評審台前，男校學生舉起青龍，在節奏強勁有力的鑼鼓聲中，為評審員們表演了一段活潑生動的舞龍。

同時，設在遊園會現場的萬佛城「君康真素齋」所提供的素食攤位前，人潮不斷，許多尋求健康美食的訪客，皆聞香而至。此類活動中，人人都非常歡迎在垃圾食物之外的另類美食。



On Sunday, September 22, the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB) entered a float in the annual Mendocino County Fair and Apple Fest Parade. The float, whose theme was "In Great Compassion, We Are One," received first place in its category again. More than sixty students, parents, and teachers participated in CTTB's float unit, which featured an 80-foot-long green dragon stretching from the front of a pickup to the end of a trailer decorated with clouds and ocean waves. The trailer carried about fifteen students dressed in ethnic costumes representing China, India, Mexico, Ireland, Nigeria, the United States, and other nations. Parents, teachers and friends holding Dharma Realm Buddhist Association flags walked behind the trailer.

A second pickup carried a white-robed Guanyin Bodhisattva (a student) surrounded by nuns and younger students chanting "Om Mani Padme Hum" under a tent-like roof decorated with flowers.

As the float traveled down the main street of Boonville, bystanders often waved or clapped in appreciation or even chanted along. When the float unit passed by the judges' stand, the boy students hoisted the dragon from the truck and entertained the judges and crowd with a lively dragon dance to the staccato rhythm of drum and cymbals.

Meanwhile, in the Fairgrounds, the Jyun Kang Vegetarian Restaurant (of CTTB)'s booth attracted a steady stream of visitors hungry for delicious, wholesome food, a welcome alternative to the usual fare of junk food available at such events.

