Gentry relives tale of Manson clan

by CRAIG REEM

Daily Associate Editor

(Editor's note: This is an excerpt from an interview recently conducted by Craig P. Reem in Curt Gentry’s San Francisco home.)

"Helter Skelter" has been in bookstores and stands since 1972. The story, although still fresh in the minds of the Manson clan members who are serving life sentences, has slowly faded from the limelight and taken a prominent place among the other infamous crimes of this century.

But for Curt Gentry, co-author of "Helter Skelter", the marksmen of Charles Manson, his "family" and the bloody Sharon Tate-LaBianca murders are as personal to him as if he had been one of the victims.

Gentry, 45, who co-authored the book with Vincent Bugliosi—the chief prosecutor in the Manson case—has written 13 books covering such diverse subjects as Supervision Mountains in Arizona ("The Killer Mountains"), a study of California ("The Last Great Days of the Last Great State of California") and the colorful madams of early San Francisco ("The Madamrs of San Francisco").

After spending four years in researching and writing "Helter Skelter", Gentry has embarked on a book on the last J. Edgar Hoover, head of the FBI for 48 years. Gentry recently completed three years of research on Hoover and is about to begin writing the book "Walking into Gentry's rustic home in San Francisco, one was soon overwhelmed by the voluminous number of books stacked neatly in bookcases both upstairs and down.

As the conversation spun around Gentry as a non-fiction writer, on his topics and on Hoover, the noise of The City—rumbled outside—a cacaphony of cars, people and airplanes.

But as Gentry started to talk about Manson, an eerie silence prevailed in the room. The noise outside just seemed to fade away.

"Helter Skelter. What made "Helter Skelter" a runaway best seller?"

Gentry: I don't know. I've thought about that myself. I like to think that it was well written. I like to think it was an exciting book, an important book. But just as realistically, I would hope that it was just that the public was ready for this sort of thing, which nobody can predict.

MD: How did the co-authorship between you and Vincent Bugliosi work?

Gentry: It was basically Vince's story and I wrote it. Through most of the writing, Vince was tied up with the trial and with some political campaigns. We spent about 70 hours together in interviews and he turned over mass amounts of material—the trial transcript, which was over six million words, police reports the like I had never seen, etc.

(Cover photo by Craig Reem)

(Continued on page 8)

Trade deficit reaches new low

WASHINGTON—The U.S. trade deficit in the first four months of 1977 already has surpassed the total for the worst trade year in history, the Commerce Department announced yesterday. The deficit now stands at $8.5 billion, well ahead of the record $6 billion for all of 1972.

The past, large trade deficits have tended to decrease the value of the dollar and contributed to the nation's problems with inflation.

Gummor release four Dutch children

AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS—Asian gunmen released two girls and two boys yesterday from a besieged elementary school where they are still holding nearly 100 school children. All four children, ages 7-12, complained of being ill in what marked the first release of hostages by the Dutch gunners. Telephone negotiations continue with government officials.

"Russians and Swedes racist's"

LONDON—Ambassador Andrew Young, on his way home from an eight-nation African tour, said Wednesday everyone is a racist but that some people, such as the Russians and Swedes, are bigger racists than others. "It's impossible not to be a racist, but as the Russians and Swedes are bigger racists than others, "It's impossible not to be a racist, but as the Russians and Swedes are bigger racists than others, "It's impossible not to be a racist, but as the Russians and Swedes are bigger racists than others, "It's impossible not to be a racist, but as the Russians and Swedes are bigger racists than others, "It's impossible not to be a racist, but as the Russians and Swedes are bigger racists than others, "It's impossible not to be a racist, but as the Russians and Swedes are bigger racists than others, "It's impossible not to be a racist, but as the Russians and Swedes are bigger racists than others, "It's impossible not to be a racist, but as the Russians and Swedes are bigger racists than others, "It's impossible not to be a racist, but as the Russians and Swedes are bigger racists than others, "It's impossible not to be a racist, but as the Russians and Swedes..."
The Mustang Daily is a student-run newspaper at Westmont College. The content includes various articles, editorials, and advertisements. The text discusses topics such as environmental concerns, personal experiences, and campus life. The newspaper is produced weekly and is distributed on campus and in the surrounding communities.
Mustang Daily
Friday, May 27, 1977

Tis the season for hay fever
by J.N. SBRANTI
Daily Staff Writer

It's easy to spot them around campus. They're sneezing and sniffling, rub­
ing their eyes, scratching their nose, reaching for an Elmer's. Their hay fever sufferers and this is their season of allergy.

San Luis Obispo is one of the worst areas in the state for free-uniformed allergy victims, according to Dr. Thomas Collins of the Cal Poly Health Center staff. Collins said the campus is all the prerequisites for a degraded hay fever because of the wind and the density of vegetation grown in the area.

The seasonal illness, which brings many people a head cold that just won't go away, is for most of the area's hay fever sufferers from March until June, Collins said.

The doctor estimated that several thousand Poly students are troubled with hay fever. This causes a substantial rise in students visits to the health center each spring, he said. There is no cure for the common ailments caused by the body's reaction to pollens, but Collins said there is relief to be found.

Allergy suffers are advised to try these drugs first, but for an unlucky few, the common medicines are not enough. The health center can also provide some help for these people.

A process of desensitization is often the next step on the road to relief for hay fever sufferers. This process consists of exposure to minute amounts of those offending pollens which one has been determined to be allergies by appropriate skin testing. Injections of these pollens are then given at regular in­tervals, and the dosage is gradually increased. Eventually, most bodies will build up a tolerance to the pollen, making the spring season more bearable.

The campus health facility can give the desensitization serum, usually in shot form, but the initial testing and dosages must be admin­istered off campus by private allergists.

Unfortunately, Collins said, there are no board cert­ified allergists in county, so students must travel a few miles away from San Luis Obispo for doctor visits in order to begin desensitization programs.

The campus physician pointed out that getting the proper pollens into the shot can be a long and difficult process. However, most of those who get the shots regularly experience 70 to 80 per cent effectiveness.

As a last resort to bring relief, corticosteroids are prescribed on carries for severe hay fever victims. These drugs suppress the usual response of the body to foreign substances that produce unwanted reactions.
Costsides are only used when all else fails because of their adverse side effects, Collins explained. Of course, the ultimate hay fever cure is to move away from the allergy area that Collins said has been seriously considered by several Poly allergy suf­ferers.

Collins advises students who suspect they may have hay fever (often allergy problems arise for the first time when students come to Poly) to come to the Triage clinic at the health center. Most hay fever victims can be substantially helped there, he said.

The doctor also suggests students give the medications prescribed, or those purchased over the counter, a fair trial before switching to a different type of drug.

He reminds students with health cards that they can get their drugs a significantly reduced rate at the health center.

SPEND A SUMMER DIGGING RUINS

The Cal Poly Excavation is again offering an archeological field school, June 20 through July 10.

For six weeks, students will be studying an Indian burial ground located at San Antonio Mis­sion five days a week in the session, including registration fee and room and board, is $256, with a $20 deposit required at time of registration.

For registration forms, contact the Social Science Department or Cal Poly Excavation.

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Married students feel the pinch

The problems with choosing a mate

James Sweaney

Somewhere in the world is the perfect person for each one of us—or so we have been told for as long as we can remember. All we have to do is wait patiently and eventually the right person will come along. But what about the forty-year-old bachelor who is still waiting for the right person? Let's examine the situation.

Getting married—choosing a mate is not something that is easy. It is a decision that should not be taken lightly. There are many factors to consider before making such a commitment.

The boundaries and privileges of the state of matrimony have a specific purpose: to allow individuals to develop their lives with each other. In this way, people can reproduce and thus continue the human race. However, the idea of marriage is not as simple as it seems. It involves a lot of work and responsibility. The decision to marry is a serious one and should not be taken lightly.

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The problem is that many people are not ready to commit to a marriage. They are not ready to make the sacrifices that marriage requires. They are not ready to give up their individuality and become part of a family. They are not ready to take on the responsibilities of a married life.

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Bachelors party with class

KEVIN F. FALLS  
Daily Associate Editor

There can be more to throwing a bachelor party than just showing stag moves in a side room and trying to make the groom puke. Believe it or not, a bachelor party can be grown with a touch of class. It just depends on how creative the hosts want to be.

A college student at Poly who didn't want to throw a stereo-type stag party for a bud who was about to tie the knot. It could just be too easy.

In about a month before the party, they had all vowed to write skits and monologues to roast the groom-to-be. But the course of the next three weeks, in spite of all their intentions to ridicule the groom or the bride, there was not a single attempt to write the part with the idea to make the groom try to make it seem like a fairy tale time with Miss Pat more charming. Oh, and the whole thing was a surprise.

The host didn't have the heart to fry the groom on an empty stomach. So he and his roommates cooked up a batch of spaghetti that would make Marta Alberghini drool for the victim and his guests. Nine pounds of hamburger and 10 pounds of noodles were prepared for 18 guys.

There was some thought in finding a connection for 8mm movie. Not the kind for the whole family. But all admitted that if you've seen one, you've seen 'em all.

Last Friday night, when the future husband of America arrived at the apartment, he was greeted by 18 vertak smiles. The dinner was served, the beer consumed and the roasting was a hilarious success.

The groom said later he was impressed. "Anybody could have had a cheap bachelor party," he said. "But this is something I'll never forget." That is, what there is to remember.

The housing crunch

He also recommends checking out a housing program run by the California State University and San Luis Obispo College. The program is modeled on the East Coast, but when it was begun in the fall, it was not as close to be as successful.

Phillips said the housing project was to be financed by the state and a portion of the money would be used to build more housing. He added that the program was in the final stages when the Hibernia was burned down in the Isle Vista neighborhood of San Luis Obispo, California. The housing project was to be financed by the state and a portion of the money would be used to build more housing. Phillips said, "because many campuses are now running on-campus housing facilities at a loss."

Cal Poly happens to be an exception to this however.

The California State University and San Luis Obispo College Trustees do not want to lose any more money in student housing. Phillips said, "because many campuses are now running on-campus housing facilities at a loss."

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Housing crunch

Old Pol's "come within a hair" of getting on-campus married student housing years ago, according to Peter Phillips, campus facilities planner.

Phillips said that the idea was to build the housing units on campus property just off Highway One in the final stages when the Hibernia was burned down in the Isle Vista neighborhood of San Luis Obispo, California. The housing project was to be financed by the state and a portion of the money would be used to build more housing. Phillips said, "because many campuses are now running on-campus housing facilities at a loss."

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On the map, Isle Vista and San Luis Obispo are only half an inch apart. That's what made the difference," Phillips explained.

As things stand now, in Cal Poly's long range master plan, land is set aside for future married student housing, but Phillips believes it is highly unlikely that any will be built within the next 10 years.

The California State University and San Luis Obispo College Trustees do not want to lose any more money in student housing. Phillips said, because many campuses are now running on-campus housing facilities at a loss. Cal Poly happens to be an exception to this however.
males of the family were in Northern California prisons and all the people that were still out, like Squeaky and Sandy, had moved up to Northern California to be near them on visitor's days. I was never sure if they would recognize me because I had talked to them extrajudicially.

MD: Manson was an incredible list of local, state and federal offenses. Yet, he always seemed to get probation. Does this tie in with some type of power so great to people so to what he seeks or is it the lax attitude of our people to do what he seeks, or is it the fact that he drew from, how do you personally feel about having a leader who is not?
Top ten finish is tracksters' goal

Coach Steve Miller and his Cal Poly track team start competition in the NCAA Division II finals today at Fargo, N.D. with only one time to make finish in the top ten. That won't be too many considering Poly's 15th place finish last year. However, Poly has been a national top ten finisher; in the last 12 years, the Mustangs have been listed below the top ten spot only once—1970 when it was tied in 16th and 1972 when they placed 15th. Poly has taken NCAA crowns in 1968, 69, '70 and third in '64, '65, 71, 76, and '78.

Seven Mustangs qualifiers will compete in six events, spearheaded by quarter-mile Sonie Lloyd.

Lloyd is entered in three events, the 400 and both the 440 and 1600 meter relays. The enter has already logged 46.5 over 400 meters, which is the fastest Division II time in the nation. It also earned him the California Collegiate Athletic Association championship in that event.

"He's got an excellent chance to become the school's first ever national quarter-mile champ," said Miller.

Poly has not turned out a national champ since Clancy Edwards took the 100 and 220 dashes in 1976. The best performance turned in by a Mustang quarter-miler has been Bob Newton's second place finish in 1968.

Lloyd was recently honored with the Jon Dana Memorial Award which is given annually to the Most Valuable Track Athlete. Dana was a two-time All American in 1964-65 as an intermediate hurdlers.

The MVP will be teaming up with Mike Bartlett, Jeff Weigel and Bart Williams to form the 1000-meter relay team. The outfit has one of the best times in the nation among Division II teams. Poly covered the mile course in 5:10.96. The metric equivalent would be about two seconds faster which would rank the Mustangs in the same class as Adelphi and Kentucky State, two powerhouse in the relay. They ran 5:06.3 and 5:06.8 respectively in the Penn relays in April.

The Poly intermediate hurdlers will also get a crack in the finals. Bartlett and Williams, who currently hold the third and fourth fastest 400 intermediate-hurdle times in the nation, will try to chalk up points for the Mustangs. They face stiff competition in CCAA champ Sam Turner of LA State and Kentucky State's Randolph Williams.

Turner has timed 49.09 with Williams of Kentucky landing a 50.7 clocking. Poly's Bartlett and Williams have hit the tape in 51.3 and 51.8 respectively.

Williams scored the Mustang's only eight points in last year's meet when he finished second in the intermediates.

Jim Warrick will be Poly's representative in the 10,000 meters. He figures to compete in the NCAA Division II.

Poly's Mike Raynes prepares for a splashy touchdown commute Jeff Small approaches in the recently held championships.

Poly has taken NCAA crowns in 1968, 69, '70 and third in '64, '65, 71, 76, and '78.
Horsemen in cutting competition

by DOROTHY NEWELL
Daily Staff Writer

The horse and rider enter the arena and face a small group of cattle. With little or no guidance from the rider, the horse carefully moves the group of animals and gently separates one from the rest.

This is the sport of cutting, to be demonstrated at three different cutting shows this weekend. The first show will be Saturday, May 28, at the Wayne Vaughn Ranch, one mile southeast of the San Luis Obispo Airport on Davenport Rd. Sunday, May 29, Cal Poly will sponsor the show to be held in the Beef Unit Arena. Alex Madonna will sponsor the May 30 show at the Madonna Inn.

Cutting is a sport requiring a tremendous amount of skill and patience. It is an entertaining event enjoyed worldwide and involves more money than any other non-racing equestrian sport.

Through instinct and intensive training the horse is able to perform a series of quick, sharp turns or cuts around an animal, causing it away from its group. The horse must then restrain the animal, keeping it in a designated area by itself.

After the horse has succeeded in keeping the animal in one place for a short time, the horseman gives a signal for his mount to allow the animal to join the group and the process begins again.

A well-trained horse should be able to perform this skill in less than a minute. The score must be quick, precise and careful.

Horsemen are judged on their ability to control another animal and the horsemen are judged on their riding skill. Judges come into consideration such as the time involved and the rider's ability to refrain from forcing his horse into a decision.

A certain amount of points are awarded to the horse and rider for the skill they demonstrate, each point representing one dollar. The four top contenders in each competition are allowed to collect the money they have earned throughout the competition.

Competitors come from all over the western United States to perform in this event, including several from Cal Poly. A $200 purse will be awarded to each of the four winners in the open class. The four winners of the non-professional class will receive $150.

These competion are approved by the Pacific Coast Cutting Horse Association and the National Cutting Horse Association. These competitions are the championships for each of the organizations.

The shows will begin at 9 a.m. Admission is free.