After Aidas closed earlier this year, SLO textbooks moved in, selling similar books and supplies.

Wood is the General Manager of LDL University Book Exchange. The company is based in Seattle, Wash., and has similar locations in Seattle and Denver, Colo. According to Wood, LDL has been familiar with the San Luis Obispo area and this particular location for a while and believed Aida’s customer base would provide a good market for a new bookstore.

"We know that the customer base is here," Wood said. "When we were working very hard to just get the store open for buyback a day after signing the lease, we had people already knocking on the doors, 30 to 40 people a day. We do buyback at higher prices so the students' overall perception has been great so far.

"What we're really focusing on is making sure that the students know we're here and we're still open, just under a new name and that's about it."

Wood does not anticipate a need to order large amounts of new textbooks for summer quarter. Many of the same classes were offered during spring quarter and buybacks will supply a large amount of the inventory. This means that a lot of the textbooks being sold over the next few months will be used.

"We can afford to pay higher prices on textbooks; we can afford to charge a little less than what you're going to find at the on-campus bookstore," Wood said. "Students can have confidence in that. Establishing trust is important while and believed Aida's customer relations must be allowed to continue," Wood is confident that LDL Textbooks will be a successful business. He contends that LDL is a very strong company and will provide plenty of backing and support.

"We intend to do the exact same thing (as Aida's) as far as providing inventory. This means that a lot of the textbooks being sold over the next few months will be used.

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Gates: No reason to build up US troops in Korea

Lara Jakes

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam (AP) — While worrisome, North Korea's nuclear and missile crises have reached a cross level that would warrant additional U.S. troops in the region, U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates said.

Gates, who is in Singapore to meet with Asian defense ministers, said he has not seen any moves by North Korea's military that would prompt the United States to add to the roughly 28,000 troops already in South Korea. He said any military actions would need to be decided upon, and carried out, by broad international agreement.

"I don't think that anybody in the administration thinks there is a crisis," Gates told reporters aboard his military jet early Friday morning, still Thursday night in Washington.

"What we do have, though, are two new developments that are very provocative, that are aggressive, accompanied by very aggressive rhetoric," he said. "And I think it brings home the reality of the challenge that North Korea poses to the region and to the international community.

Gates appeared to try to tamp down some of the tough rhetoric that has flown between Washington and Pyongyang this week, since North Korea said it successfully detonated a nuclear device in its northeast on Monday and followed with a series of short-range missile launches.

Gates also cited a silver lining of the situation: an opportunity to build stronger ties with the Chinese government.

"Just based on what the Chinese government has said publicly, there is no reason to build up US troops in Korea.

Obama presses Israel, Palestinians on West Bank

Ben Feller

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gingerly trying to advance Mideast peace, President Barack Obama on Thursday challenged Israel to stop settlement construction in the West Bank on the same day the White House rejected that demand. Obama pushed Palestinians for progress, too, deepening his personal involvement.

"I am confident that we can move this process forward," Obama said after meeting with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas at the White House. The president said that means both sides must "meet the obligations that they've already committed to" — an element of the peace effort that has proved elusive for years.

Earlier in the day, Israel rejected outright U.S. requests to freeze Jewish settlement construction in the West Bank, a territory that would make up the Palestinian state, along with the Gaza Strip, as part of a broader peace deal.

In strong language, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton had said Wednesday that Obama wants a halt to all settlement construction, including "natural growth," Israeli uses that term for new housing and other construction that it says will accommodate the growth of families living in existing settlements.

Israeli spokesman Mark Regev responded Thursday by saying some construction would go on. "Normal life in those communities must be allowed to continue," he said, noting Israel has already agreed not to build new settlements and to remove some unauthorized settler outposts. Regev said the fate of the settlements would be determined in peace negotiations with the Palestinians.

With that as a backdrop, Obama said part of Israeli obligations include "stopping settlements." But he also struck a hopeful tone.

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Obama

continued from page 1

that the Israeli leader needs to work through the issue with his own government.

"I think it's important not to assume the worst, but to assume the best," Obama said.

The president also pushed Palestinians to hold up their end, including increased security in the West Bank to give Israelis confidence in their safety.

Obama said he told Abbas the Palestinians must find a way to halt the incitement of anti-Israeli sentiments that are sometimes expressed in schools, mosques and public arenas.

"All these things are impediments to peace," Obama said.

The Palestinian leader said "we are fully committed to all of our obligations" under the peace framework known as the road map. During so, Abbas said, is "the only way to achieve the durable, comprehensive and just peace that we need and desire in the Middle East.'"

Obama, like predecessor George W. Bush, embraces a multifacted Mideast peace plan that calls for a Palestinian state alongside Israel.

The president refused to set a timetable for such a nation but also noted he has not been slow to get involved in meeting with both sides and pushing the international community for help.

"We can't continue with the drift, with the increased fear and resentment on both sides, the sense of hopelessness around the situation that we've seen for many years now," Obama said. "We need to get this thing back on track."

Abbas is working to repackage a 2002 Saudi Arabian plan that called for Israel to give up land it has occupied since the 1967 war in exchange for normalized relations with Arab countries. Abbas gave Obama a document that would keep intact that requirement and also offer a way to monitor a required Israeli freeze on all settlement activity, a timetable for Israeli withdrawal and a realization of a two-state solution.

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said Obama affirmed to Abbas that Israel has an obligation to freeze settlement expansions, including natural growth.

The U.S. and much of the world consider the settlements an obstacle to peace because they are built on occupied land the Palestinians claim for a future state. But successive U.S. administrations have done little to halt settlement activity.

I want to use the occasion to deliver a broader message about how the United States can change for the better its relationship with the Muslim world.

—Barack H. Obama

President of the United States

Korea

continued from page 1

they're clearly pretty unhappy about the nuclear test in particular, and they weren't very happy about the missile test either," Gates said. "And my impression is they were surprised by the nuclear test. And so, as I say, I think there may be some opportunities here."

He added: "I don't want to put the burden solely on China, because the reality is that while China has more influence than anybody else on North Korea, I believe that that influence has its limits. But it is important for the Chinese to be a part of any effort to try to deal with these issues with North Korea."

Gates suggested that diplomatic talks among six countries — Russia, China, Japan, South Korea, North Korea and the U.S. — to get rid of all nuclear weapons on the Korean Peninsula have not worked. He said that while the discussions should continue, the nations other than North Korea now need to focus on what he described as "where do we go from here?"

"I think that they clearly have not had the impact in North Korea that any of us have wanted," Gates said of the talks. "That doesn't mean they are useless by any means, and we are still committed to the six-party talks. But I think that we need to figure out a way to try and move forward with North Korea."

Gates said direct talks between the U.S. and North Korea are "at the very least, "not the way to go."

In what the Pentagon called a first for a U.S. defense chief, Gates was to meet with his Japanese and South Korean counterparts at the two-day Singapore conference. He also was to meet briefly with the head of China's military.

Gates said North Korea would likely dominate the Singapore discussions and hinted that additional economic or military sanctions might be put on Pyongyang as punishment for the tests. But he said that any sanctions should impact the communist government and not its citizens, whom he said have already suffered "enough damage" by their leaders.

He cited North Korean exports of missile and nuclear technology as a top worry, and said the United Nations, and Russia and China in particular, need to be part of any efforts to curb them.

Now more than 120 settlements dot the West Bank, and Palestinian officials say their growth makes it increasingly impossible to realize their dreams of independence. More than 290,000 Israelis live in the settlements, in addition to more than 2 million Palestinians in the West Bank. An additional 180,000 Israelis live in east Jerusalem, where the Palestinians hope to establish their capital.

Israelis will be anxiously watching Obama's first meeting in Cairo, where he will deliver a message to the Muslim world to try to repair relations that frayed badly under the Bush administration. Obama will also visit Saudi Arabia before he goes to Egypt.

"I want to use the occasion to deliver a broader message about how the United States can change for the better its relationship with the Muslim world," Obama said of his Egyptian speech. "That will require, I think, a recognition on both the part of the United States as well as many majority Muslim countries about each other, a better sense of understanding, and I think possibilities to achieve common ground."

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**WORD ON THE STREET**

"Do you think students should be legally allowed to carry guns on campus?"

"I would say no. It's pretty clearly a big safety issue. I am all about self defense but not at school."
- Andy Nunes, computer science sophomore

"There was that thing with Virginia Tech so I don't know. I have friends who are into guns but I don't think (guns) should be on campus."
- Ilya Seletsky, computer science sophomore

"No, I wouldn't feel comfortable with other people with guns on campus."
- Soloman So, city and regional planning junior

"No, I don't think someone who is 18 or 20 should be carrying a gun. I really don't see a need for it."
- Chris Glasser, industrial technology freshman

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**Gun supporters say colleges trample protest rights**

Ramnit Plushnick-Masti

Colleges nationwide have unconstitutionally barred students from handing out literature, protesting and gathering in support of the right to carry weapons on campus, students and an advocacy group say.

Christine Brasher, a freshman at the Community College of Allegheny County near Pittsburgh, said a dean recently told her she had to stop distributing flyers for the group Students for Concealed Carry on Campus, which has chapters at many colleges, and destroy the pamphlets she had designed.

"I just wanted to start a student organization. I didn't think it was going to get this much attention," Brasher said. "It only got this attention because they stopped me. People don't like to hear about suppression of free speech."

Brasher is licensed to carry a concealed firearm but doesn't take it to school because CCAC, like most colleges and universities nationwide, does not allow weapons on campus. Some states explicitly ban students from carrying weapons on campus, while others — like Pennsylvania — allow the schools to set policy.

But since April 16, 2007, when Seung-Hui Cho went on a shooting rampage at Virginia Tech University, killing 32 people and injuring 17 before turning the gun on himself, more students have been advocating for the right to carry guns on campus, and state lawmakers have been tackling the issue, as well.

As a result, more universities and colleges have suppressed the rights of students to organize, said Robert Shibley, vice president of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, a Philadelphia-based nonprofit.

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Schwarzenegger: More pay cuts for state workers

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger will ask that more than 200,000 state employees take an additional 5 percent pay cut to deal with California's growing budget deficit, on top of an earlier reduction of nearly 10 percent.

The proposal comes after the governor ordered two-day-a-month furloughs that began in February and will be part of his plan to cut an additional $3 billion in state spending, Schwarzenegger Communications Director Matt David said.

State

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Riders on the Bay Area Rapid Transit system will have to pay even more for each trip beginning in July.

BART's board of directors announced Thursday that fares will go up an average of 6.1 percent on July 1. Fares on short trips will go up by 25 cents, while the surcharge on rides to San Francisco International Airport will go up $2.50.

BART is facing a $247 million, four-year deficit. The board says two-thirds of that will be erased by reducing expenses, with the rest coming from riders.

Officials are also adding a $1 a day parking fee at eight stations that previously had free parking.

Next month, the BART board will consider paring back weeknight and Saturday service to trains every 20 minutes, instead of every 15 minutes.

VENTURA, Calif. (AP) — Investigators believe the killer of a Ventura County husband and his pregnant wife targeted the couple before stabbing them in their beachside home.

Sheriff's Sgt. Bill Hester told residents at a meeting Wednesday evening that the investigation into the deaths of Brock and Davina Husted is preliminary. The residents were told there is a lot of evidence to sift through and a lot of information investigators cannot share.

Authorities say the couple's 9-year-old son saw an intruder in a motorcycle helmet confront his mother in the kitchen late in the evening on May 19.

National

CANTON, Ohio (AP) — Hip-hop star Akon spoke to students in uptown New York about gun violence as part of a plea agreement for tossing a fan off stage at a concert nearby.

Akon pleaded guilty in December to tossing the teen off stage at a June 2007 concert at Dutchess County Stadium in Fishkill, N.Y. He won't serve jail time but must complete 65 hours of anti-violence and anti-gang community service.

Poughkeepsie Mayor John Tkacyk said Thursday's forum fulfilled some of those hours.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Cool and collected, Kavya Shivashankar wrote out every word on her palm and always ended with a smile. The 13-year-old Kansas girl saw the biggest smile for last, when she rattled off the letters to "Loodiscan" to become the nation's spelling champion.

The budding neurosurgeon from Olathe, Kan., outlasted 11 finalists Thursday night to win the Scripps National Spelling Bee, taking home more than $41,000 in cash and prizes and, of course, the huge champiri's trophy. After writing the winning word, which means lukewarm or indifferent in religion or politics, Kavya got hugs from her father, mother and little sister.

Kavya was making her fourth appearance at the bee, having finishing 16th, eighth and fourth over the last three years.

International

GENEVA (AP) — An independent U.N. human rights investigator said Thursday that the United States is failing to properly investigate alleged war crimes committed by its soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Although some cases are investigated and lead to prosecutions, others aren't or result in lenient sentences, said Philip Alston, the U.N. Human Rights Council's special rapporteur on extrajudicial killings.

"There have been chronic and deplorable accountability failures with respect to policies, practices and conduct that resulted in alleged unlawful killings — including possible war crimes — in the United States' international operations," Alston said in a report dated May 26 and published on a U.N. Web site.

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — A strong earthquake struck early Thursday off the coast of Honduras, collapsing shacks in Honduras and Belize and sending people running into the streets in their pajamas as far away as Guatemala City. No injuries or deaths were immediately reported.

The magnitude-7.1 quake struck at 3:24 a.m. at the relatively shallow depth of 6 miles, according to the U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colorado. The epicenter was 80 miles northwest of La Ceiba, Honduras, and 200 miles from the capital, Tegucigalpa.

Guns

continued from page 3

following the cases and writing letters protesting them.

FIRE has not taken any cases to court, but Shibley said the group has not ruled it out. FIRE's philosophy is to work with the universities to get them to independently change their policies.

In the case of Tarant County College in Fort Worth, Texas, Shibley said he would not comment on whether FIRE would sue. But it "is always an option when constitutional rights are violated," he said.

Mustang Daily Summer Edition

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Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Elmer Fudd and Foghorn Leghorn are some of the cartoon characters many associate with their childhood. Waking up early and turning on “Looney Tunes” with cereal in hand was often the highlight of the weekend. Smiles would form with each crescendo and quirky melody.

Now, cartoon aficionados and interested listeners alike can experience the nostalgia of childhood when saxophonist and clarinetist Don Byron performs cartoon-inspired jazz at the Performing Arts Center tonight at 8 p.m. Byron, a finalist for the 2009 Pulitzer Prize in Music, will perform with Cal Poly’s University Jazz Band directed by Paul Rinzler, director of Jazz studies. TIME Magazine credits Byron with transcending categorical genres, but he was one of the first jazz musicians to highlight music used in cartoons by featuring 1930s composer Raymond Scott in his work.

“Cartoon melodies of the ’40s would use what Raymond Scott had done in the ’30s as background,” Rinzler said. “The music would fit the cartoons really well because it has kind of a quirky sound to it. Don Byron has gone back and rediscovered the music of Raymond Scott.”

Byron has an East Coast style and performs challenging music that the band members are eager to experience, said Brandon Rolle, University jazz Band guitarist and music senior.

“The music is really difficult and some have the preconcert jitters, but it is good every so often to hear (a different perspective) and point out something that we may have missed,” Rolle said. “It’s a really useful experience.”

Byron won the Samuel Barber Rome Prize for Composition that will send him to Rome to work on a chamber opera based on the novel and film, “Gentleman’s Agreement,” according to his Web site. Tonight, he will perform pieces such as Scott’s “The Penguins,” which aptly describes Byron’s music, Rinzler said.

“It captures the character of a penguin, how cute they waddle, it just captures that perfectly in a jazz way.”

The jazz band will rehearse with Byron as well as participate in workshops and clinics to get his input.

“I don’t think students are intimidated, it’s a combination of initial respect,” Rinzler said. “They go through a process of checking him out, seeing what type of musician and person he is; he will do the same to the band. They will identify a common ground musically and come together to create a musical performance as a unit.”

Rolle values the opportunity to meet established musicians such as Byron as a means of networking.

“IT’s a great contact for one, someone from different parts of the country,” Rolle said. “Top-notch musicians set the bar high for the rest of the group.”

“He will give students advice as far as how to approach the music that will tighten up and refine what they are doing,” Rinzler said.

Tickets are $12 and $15 for general admission, $10 and $13 for seniors and Jazz Federation members and $6 and $10 for students. Tickets can be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Blame ballot box for poor decisions in California

Josh Green

The Daily Californian (CA Berkeley)

Californians know disasters and have lived through several natural ones. Earthquakes, fires, floods, you name it. If it's that rare that the state suffers two disasters in a week's time, then it's that exactly what happened last week on successive Tuesdays. One was a fiscal disaster, the other a moral one.

On May 19 the voters — at least the quarter of them who bothered to show up — decided to stick a finger in the eye of the legislators and send free ball- lot measures down in flames. The compromises between legislators that were supposed to dig us out of a budget hole were scoffed at by the electorate, which seemed blinded by the will of the people?

It's more like the will of the educated, the will of the wealthy, the lies that these groups that vote in higher numbers than everyone else. This is not the fault of educated, wealthy whites, it's just a fact. Somebody's civil rights should not be judged by a self-se- lected quarter of the population.

But this reality of voter turn- out, combined with an inflexible system in which initiatives cannot be overturned except by another initiative or a reluctant state Su- preme Court, have left us with a system that in 2008.

I don't think there's anything we can do to change the system, the worst that can happen is that the people who want to get their way win, and the rest of us lose. I think the only other alternative is to limit their export of those decisions.

Here's a tip: When you can't find anyone to blame, the blame usually lies with you. If you're frustrated with the state's decision making, then you can blame the initiative system itself and the will of those who participated. If these two disasters do not con- vince voters that the initiative system needs serious reform, I don't know what will.

The injustice is in the numbers. Prop. 8 failed because 10.9 percent of the adult population cast a "No" vote on it, and there was a similar outcome for the other four failed propositions. Prop. 8 passed because 26.6 percent of the adult population decided that gays should not marry last November. How, in any way, can those kind of numbers be the "will of the people?"

"We're just a small part of the adult population, the will of the wealthy, and the will of the whites, because these are the groups that vote in higher numbers than everyone else. This is not the fault of educated, wealthy whites, it's just a fact. Somebody's civil rights should not be judged by a self-selected quarter of the population.

But this reality of voter turn- out, combined with an inflexible system in which initiatives cannot be overturned except by another initiative or a reluctant state Su- preme Court, have left us with a system that in 2008.

I don't think there's anything we can do to change the system, the worst that can happen is that the people who want to get their way win, and the rest of us lose. I think the only other alternative is to limit their export of those decisions.
I put on 110 lbs. of muscle in six months to play Batman, then went crazy on my mom and the Terminator set. But I don’t play baseball, no one really cared.

Christian Bale’s Memoir Chapter, “Roid Rage”

The New York Times

Crossword

Across
1. New out ... or "Y" (8)
7. To fly features an image of a stone-carved bird (6)
16. Like a relatively minor fire (5)
17. Like old shops (5)
18. Running (5)
19. Kings Peak’s Range (6)
20. Plant problem (6)
23. Plant problem (6)
25. Like a relatively common vessel (6)
28. Carrier of very destructive cargo (9)
30. Cooking vessel (6)
31. One may be well-handled in court (9)
32. Pier of elephants? (9)
33. Aviator’s concern: Abbr. (6)
34. Reducer of pier pressure? (6)
35. LULU opener indicating an additional layer of encryption (6, 4, 6: Abbr.) (9)
36. Mineralogist’s sample set (6)
37. Travis (5)
38. Gentry she sings on pomagranate-tree” “Josie” (9)

Down
1. Drafting aids (5)
2. Hooked, as a nose (5)
3. Residents of dry, open country in South America (5)
4. Ways to go (5)
5. European surname (5)
6. Reason to do a 2 a.m. shift (5)
7. Alfred Kinsey’s bed (5)
8. It has top and bottom parts (5)
9. “Join the club” (5)
10. Cross words (5)
11. Yard sale? (5)
12. O.K. (5)
13. President (5)
14. Daniel Decatur who wrote what were not (5)
15. Big drink (5)
16. Plant problem (5)
17. Reaminate (5)
18. In a 38-Down way (5)
19. Gym classes (5)

24. Reaminate (5)
25. 2007-8 World Champion (5)
26. Reducer of pier pressure? (5)
27. Home maintenance (5)
28. Questions (5)
29. 2012 Hurricane for future D.A.’s seat (5)
30. Not solid (5)
31. Home of the World Museum of Mining (5)
32. They’re located above the kidneys (5)
33. Some does home maintenance (5)
34. Some does some home maintenance (5)
36. What some cards express (5)
37. Lost soul (5)
38. Transported (5)
39. It was first published in 1805 (5)
40. Rockefeller’s pastimes? (5)
41. Plaza de la... (5)
42. Homer’s gem (5)
43. Viking (5)
44. "Unbelievable!" (6)
45. It was first published in 1805 (5)
46. On the Board of Directors (8)
47. For the Lincoln (8)
48. It was first published in 1805 (5)
49. Not on the Board of Directors (8)
50. Rockerfeller’s pastimes? (8)
51. Mute (5)
52. Kings Peak’s Range (6)
53. What wisdom an image of a stone-carved bird (6)
54. The Anteaters of the Big West Conf. (5)
55. What wisdom outweighs, according to Sophocles (5)
56. Not too long ago (5)
57. Not too long ago (5)

26. In a Down (5)
27. Above the... (5)
28. Across (5)
29. At the... (5)
30. Not solid (5)
31. On the Board of Directors (8)
32. Picks up (5)
33. “L.A. Law” (5)
34. Reducer of pier pressure? (5)
35. Not on the Board of Directors (5)
36. What some cards express (5)
37. Lost soul (5)
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Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0424
Hackleman on White, Liddell and New Gym

OMAR SANCHEZ MUSTANG DAILY FILE PHOTO

Former Cal Poly wrestler Chuck Liddell, left, trains with The Pit owner John Hackleman in March.

Scott Silvey
MUSTANG DAILY

John Hackleman may train one of the baddest-minded martial artists of all-time in former Cal Poly wrestler Chuck Liddell, but he never trained for the battle that’s he’s undertaking outside the cage with UFC President Dana White.

When Liddell suffered a knockout loss to Mauricio Rua at UFC 97, his third knockout loss in five fights, White pronounced his career finished.

“John Hackleman estimates that he works with about 20 Cal Poly students, teaching them his art of Hawaiian Kempo.

“We do our world famous pit curriculum,” Hackleman said. “We work on striking, grappling, and conditioning. We have specialized standup striking classes as well as classes for people who just want to work on their grappling or conditioning.”

Hackleman defined Hawaiian Kempo at “33.3 percent striking, grappling, and conditioning” and noted that while new UFC Light Heavyweight champion Lyoto Machida is known as a karate fighter, to be a good professional a mixed martial artist must be balanced.

“As a fighter you better to be good at everything,” Hackleman said. “The flavor of the month thing might be good, but for the long run you’re going to have to know more.”

Hackleman said he hopes to train with more Cal Poly students as he plans to initiate a new program for college students.

“We’re going to call it the Cal Poly four by four or something,” Hackleman said. “Basically it takes four to five years for most people to get their degree. We want them to be able to get a degree and a black belt in that same time. This is like another family where you can train and hang out. It you’re away from home and at college, instead of hopping to the bars, getting drunk and acting stupid, you can hang out with healthy people doing healthy things.”

Hackleman on White

The game will be carried on F.SPN Radio (1280 am).

“Data White had good intentions,” he said. “But he did the wrong thing with those good intentions. I think he cares about Chuck but to say that at a press conference without talking to him — that was just rude.”

Hackleman stressed that he isn’t saying that Liddell will fight again.

“We’re not going to push him to fight or say he’s going to retire,” he said. “We’re going to let him make the decision.”

While Hackleman fights a war of words with White on one end, he’s celebrating the grand opening of his flagship gym, The Pit, on Grand Avenue in Arroyo Grande.

While the building opened a couple months ago, Hackleman and Liddell are celebrating in opening to the general public from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

“We’ve got about 30 of them now,” Hackleman said of his numerous gyms. “(But the Arroyo Grande location) is my main one. This is where I’m always at.”

headed into the Big West Conference championship two weeks ago, Cal Poly track and field director Terry Crawford said her team as well.

“We’re excited about (the impact) the athletes that qualified for the regionals,” she said.

“Every team is going to have its surprises,” she said.

There are four regions conducted through the region meaning that about 25 athletes will be competing for a spot at the nationals in each event this weekend.

“The next step is to raise that bar even higher so that we can advance some people to the NCAA championships. On the women’s side, after the kind of conference meet she had, Julie Dufresne is really primed to be a national contender this year and perhaps an All-American.”

Dufresne, who was named Big West Athlete of the Year, won two events during the conference championship, taking the shot put with a throw of 52-8.3-4 and the discus with a 161-3 mark. She was the only multi-event winner on either side for the Mustangs.

Big West Freshman of the Year Derek Thomas also has a shot to advance, according to Crawford.

“Derek Thomas has one of the best times in the 1,500 meters in the western region and he could surprise everyone and sneak into a top five placing and advance to the national championships.”

While Crawford said she felt those two athletes had the best chance of advancing, she added that anything is possible from this point on.

“Every team is going to have its surprises,” she said.

Cal Poly ready for first NCAA Division I postseason appearance

The Cal Poly baseball team (37-19) will play Oral Roberts (31-13) in their first Division I postseason game at 2 p.m. today in the Tempe Regional. The game will be carried on ESPN Radio (1280 am).