

**RUSTIC ROUNDUP**

Inside the Log Home & Timber Frame Expo | 1F



ROCKIES 6, DODGERS 5 | PADRES 5, PIRATES 3

**WIN ONE, LOSE ONE** | 1D

**THE DENVER POST**

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CSU seed bank is insurance against global changes

**Foreseeding the future**



Helen H. Richardson | The Denver Post

Parka-wearing Pat Conine, a seed technician at the National Center for Genetic Resource Preservation in Fort Collins, walks in a 5,000-square-foot deep-freeze chamber containing 700,000 varieties of handpicked seeds. The federal facility is on the CSU campus.

By Nancy Lofholm  
Denver Post Staff Writer

**Fort Collins**

Billions are tucked away at this bank, stored in row upon row of white bags inside the 12-inch-thick, tornado-proof walls of the triple-locked vault.

Billions of seeds. Maize, tomatoes, chickpeas, hops, beets, cotton, lettuce, squash, rice. If it

grows anywhere in the world, its seeds are likely here, safeguarded like gold in a federal stronghold often referred to as the Fort Knox of seeds.

This diverse collection of pinhead to pod-size seeds is more important than ever as scientists cope with a changing climate, growing threats from industrial farming and the need to develop plant-based fuel sources.

Global warming is predicted by some seed-physiology scientists to

wipe out as much as 40 percent of the world's crops, according to Kathryn Kennedy, director of the St. Louis-based Center for Plant Conservation, a longtime user of the seed bank.

Plant breeders and researchers will turn here for the seeds to produce the crops adapted to new climatic conditions.

"We have always tried to stay three

> See **SEEDS** on 16A

**ONLINE:** VIEW A SLIDE SHOW OF IMAGES FROM THE FORT COLLINS SEED BANK > [denverpost.com/extras](http://denverpost.com/extras)

**Senate Dems' Iraq war proposal dies as GOP solidly backs Bush**

By David M. Herszenhorn and Carl Hulse  
The New York Times

**Washington** — A proposal that Democrats had put forward as their best chance of changing the course of the Iraq war died on the Senate floor Wednesday as Republicans stood firmly behind President Bush.

With other Iraq-related military initiatives seemingly headed for the same fate, Senate Democrats, who only two weeks ago proclaimed September to

be the month for shifting course in Iraq, conceded they had little chance of success.

They said their strategy would now focus on portraying Republicans as opposing any change and on trying to chip away support from the White House as the war continued.

The proposal that failed Wednesday fell four votes short of the 60 needed to prevent a filibuster and would have required that U.S. troops be given as

> See **IRAQ** on 21A



Ethan Miller | Getty Images

**O.J. SIMPSON** leaves a detention center in Las Vegas after making his \$125,000 bond. Earlier Wednesday, he appeared in court on charges that include kidnapping, assault and burglary. He later flew home to Miami. > 2A

**Iraq:** Prime minister says American contractors will be held accountable. > 21A  
**Soldiers' health:** Test helps Army zero in on brain injuries. > 23A

**AEROSPACE EMPLOYMENT**

**Giant leap for state's stature**

Colorado passes Texas for industry's No. 2 spot

By Kelly Yamanouchi  
Denver Post Staff Writer

Colorado's growing aerospace industry is now the nation's second largest, according to a new report from the Metro Denver Economic Development Corp.

Colorado's total private aerospace employment grew 12.9 percent from 2006 to 2007, bringing the total to roughly 26,650 employees, according to the report, issued Wednesday.

That makes Colorado's aerospace industry the second largest nationwide when ranked by total private employment.

Colorado trails California but moved ahead of Texas to become second largest. The Metro Denver EDC has been saying for months that Colorado was likely to reach the No. 2 spot.

"It was our own space race," said Tom Clark, executive vice president of the Metro Denver EDC. "I don't think we'll ever be bigger than the mother-ship, California, but we're very, very proud."

Clark said aerospace companies look to Colorado for expansion because of its large aerospace industry with well-trained employees and cheaper costs than California.

When ranked by the concentration of private aerospace employment, Colorado is first in the United States, according to the report.

Colorado is "a very business-friendly state" with a tradition of bipartisan support, said Joe Lehman,

> See **AERO** on 6A



**25 YEARS ELUSIVE**

Among Americans who married in the 1950s, about 70 percent were still married after 25 years.

But only 49.5 percent of men and 46.4 percent of women who married in the late 1970s were married after a quarter-century.

**No silver in sight for many new marriages**

By Sam Roberts  
The New York Times

Don't stock up on silver-anniversary cards. More than half the Americans who might have celebrated their 25th wedding anniversaries since 2000 were divorced, separated or widowed before reaching that milestone, according to the latest census survey, released Wednesday.

For the first time at least since World War II, women and men who married in the late 1970s had a less than even chance of still being married 25 years later. "We know that somewhere between 40 percent and 50 percent of marriages dissolve," said Barbara Risman, executive officer of the Council on Contemporary Families, a research group. "Now, when people marry, everyone wonders, Is this one of those marriages that will be around for a while?"

But David Blankenhorn, president of the Institute for American Values, a marriage research and advocacy group, said he was struck that the per-

> See **MARRIAGE** on 16A

88° 54°  
HIGH LOW  
Mostly sunny: Breezy and warm, with highs in the upper 80s. > 8B



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