

## NATION

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
White House May Face Subpoena

WASHINGTON — Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., said Friday he'll try to subpoena the White House for information on staff contacts with Enron officials unless the administration promises to provide the material by the end of the month.

It would be the first subpoena to the Bush White House, though the General Accounting Office, Congress' investigative arm, already has sued Vice President Dick Cheney to force release of the names of Enron and other industry figures who met last year with his energy task force.

White House Counsel Alberto Gonzales said Friday that the administration was cooperating with the inquiry of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, headed by Lieberman.

## Pentagon to Limit Anthrax Vaccines

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon wants to abandon its policy

Teresa Stacy, Keller, Texas, testified that Bobby Frank Cherry, 71, bragged about the bombing one day while sitting on the porch of his home in east Texas.

The prosecution rested its case, and the defense will begin today.

ILLINOIS  
Medical Tech Wins Big Game Bucks

CHICAGO — A former medical technician with the third and final winning ticket to last month's \$331 million Big Game lottery jackpot choked back sobs of joy Friday as he stepped forward to claim his family's prize.

Pedro Sotomil, 53, of suburban Bridgeview accepted the payment on behalf of his wife, Fran, and their teen-age daughter, Kayla. He won \$110.3 million but decided to take a lump-sum payment of \$59.2 million.

COLORADO  
Man Pleads Guilty To Sex Assaults

FORT COLLINS — An Air Force airman accused of terrorizing women in two states was

## Golden Dollar Fails, Senators Are Told

Despite extensive promotion, the coin is little used and no longer produced.

By WILLIAM WAH  
Cox News Service

WASHINGTON — Two years after the Sacagawea "golden dollar" was released, 300 million unused coins are languishing in storage, and senators Friday heard what seemed like nearly as many reasons for the coin's failure.

"Almost everyone I've talked to says they've never received one in change," said Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., who helped launch the new coin, at the hearing of an Appropriations subcommittee.

Scholar Amy Mossett, who appeared in native dress to support the coin, said that it "bears an image of Sacagawea that we can carry in our hearts, our minds and our hands. I am quite surprised and perhaps more dismayed that so many people have never touched a Sacagawea coin."

Despite a \$62.3 million advertising campaign, the Sacagawea dollar coin is so little used that the U.S. Mint stopped producing them last month, except for a limited



Amy Mossett of New Town, N.D., a historical interpreter, appears in costume as Sacagawea to testify in support of the coin bearing the Shoshone guide's image before the Senate Appropriations Treasury and General Government Subcommittee on Capitol Hill on Friday.

number for collectors.

Retailers have complained their cash registers can't handle a new coin. Some critics blame the media's predictions that the coin would fail. A Mint survey last year found that the public would salt away up to 10 dollar coins before spending one.

James Benfeld, spokesman for the Coin Coalition, which represents the vending industry, said many retailers were rejecting the golden dollar because it they find it mingled with the old Susan B. An-

thonny dollar, a silver-colored coin often confused with a quarter.

"What few cash retailers are using the golden dollar will stop unless they can receive only golden dollars," said Benfeld.

Louise Roseman, director of the Federal Reserve's distribution system, said its machinery can't distinguish the coins.

But most experts outside the government agree one of the biggest problems is the dollar bill.

"The real answer is getting rid of the bill," said General Accounting

Office (GAO) analyst John Baldwin. "The coin will never be popular as long as the paper is around."

Canada, Australia and the European Union pulled their bills out of circulation when they introduced coin replacements. In the United States, however, coinage and currency decisions are granted by the Constitution to Congress, bringing politics into the equation. Public opinion makes it unlikely that the dollar bill will be eliminated any time soon, said Baldwin.

The GAO estimates potential savings of over \$450 million a year if the government switched from bills to coins. Coins cost more to produce, but the circulation life of the Sacagawea is 30 years, while dollar bills only last 22 months.

The U.S. Mint created the Sacagawea, its eighth dollar coin, after trying for 21 years to establish the Susan B. Anthony dollar. The new coin's obverse shows the Shoshone Indian mother who helped guide Lewis and Clark's expedition to the Pacific Ocean; and the reverse shows an eagle and 17 stars.

"We loved this golden one and really wanted it to succeed," said Steve Bobbitt of the American Numismatic Association, the world's largest organization of coin and currency collectors. "But it's not going to happen until someone bites the bullet and kills the dollar."