Move over, George

No simple story behind American Indian on new dollar coin

By Craig Chamberlain
News Bureau Staff Writer

The United States has a new dollar coin, and a hip George Washington is making the pitch for it on television. But at least as intriguing as the dancing, steroid-laced George is the choice of Sacajawea, a Lemhi Shoshone Indian, to grace the coin itself—and how she has been “packaged for consumption” over more than a century, says UI education professor Wanda Pillow.

Sacajawea was the only woman and only Indian on the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-06 and has become probably the most famous member of the party besides Lewis and Clark. In fact, there are more U.S. statues dedicated to Sacajawea than to any other woman. Pillow noted.

One reason, she believes, is a symbolic value that goes beyond the role Sacajawea likely played. Starting around 1900, with value that goes beyond the role Sacajawea and Clark served the traditional notion of Manifest Destiny as important figures in a new multicultural version of the story. Pillow said. It’s a repackaging of the story that still holds onto traditional and often misleading assumptions.

Pillow became fascinated with Sacajawea (spelled Sacagawea by the U.S. Mint and others) after seeing a public television documentary and reading several new books on the expedition. “I wanted to know how it is that she’s captured our attention for so long when we know so little about her,” she said. Lewis and Clark mention her less than 70 times in daily journals over two years. Pillow noted, and most references are to gathering food or basic chores. She joined the expedition as a “slave wife” to a fur trader hired by Lewis and Clark. Until the 1870s, Sacajawea and York never were, Pillow said. As an Indian woman and a black slave, their status didn’t change after the expedition, “nor did it change for their people for a very long time after that.”

Pillow hopes the new coin will be used by educators to draw attention to complex issues, like United States-Indian relations, both past and present. She’s concerned, however, that Sacajawea will still be seen in the “simple, romantic way” that Indians have been for more than a century.

Book traces evolution of piano from home to pub and concert hall

By Melissa Mitchell
News Bureau Staff Writer

These days if you want to listen to music, multiple options exist—many at the touch of a button or two. You can turn on your radio, stereo or television; you can download music files on the Internet; or you can head down to the local music club or concert hall for a live-music fix.

But not so long ago, to hear music, you had to produce it yourself—or get close to someone who did,” says UI musicologist Stephen Zank. And for much of the American middle class, the instrument of choice—hands down—was the piano.

“Nearly everybody in America, allowing for our unfortunate distinctions in class, race or ethnicity, took piano lessons or knew someone who did,” said Zank, one of 15 authors who contributed to the new book “Piano Roles: Three-Hundred Years of Life With the Piano.” The venue remained popular for quite some time, as evidenced by a 1765 advertisement for a “concert” by the Mozart children at the Swan and Hoope Tavern. Zank said the shows had a circuslike flavor and included stunts such as four-hand playing and “Papa Mozart’s famous trick of placing a handkerchief chief so that his children could not see their hands as they played.”

Not long after that, concerts by Bach, Haydn and others drew large enough crowds among more elite audiences to justify the construction of so-called “great rooms.” Another popular venue of the day throughout the continent was the piano manufacturer’s showroom. Zank said American piano makers copied the model and expanded on it in the 19th century, with Steinway and others opening substantial venues in New York in the 1860s and ’70s.

Clearly one of the most popular and accessible instruments of the past three centuries, the piano does appear to be in somewhat of a decline—or at the very least, in an evolutionary stage. Zank said. “Piano sales are down, although electronic keyboards are up. It’s hard to know if we’re coming quickly or abruptly—or more slowly in a more dignified fashion—to the end of the piano as an instrument of great cultural significance. It’s difficult to imagine it will have the same roles in the 21st century that it had in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. But that in itself is quite fascinating, no?”

Piano notes: UI musicologist Stephen Zank and 14 other contributing authors explore the great cultural significance of the piano in the book “Piano Roles: Three Hundred Years of Life With the Piano.” According to Zank, the piano clearly has been one of the most popular and accessible instruments of the past three centuries.
The Office of Academic Human Resources, Suite 420, 807 S. Wright St., maintains listings for faculty positions. More complete descriptions are available in that office during regular business hours. The Employment List (the classified listings for faculty positions) is available on line at www.arts.uiuc.edu/jobs/ and may be accessed via the UI Home page. A listing is available weekly and can be found on the JHR Web site at: www.ahr.uiuc.edu/jobs/index.asp.

Current Positions:

Chemistry. Computer assisted design specialist. Bachelor's degree required; plus knowledge and experience in computer assisted design, computer aided drafting, computer and related software, and experience with computer aided manufacturing. Professor Michael G. Hahn; Closing date: July 15.

Microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) engineer. Bachelor's degree required in engineering field. Experience working in design, modeling, simulation, fabrication, and testing of MEMS devices is essential. Candidate should have at least a rudimentary knowledge of electrical and optical engineering and should be skilled at designing and testing electro-optical systems. Contact Mildred E. Horgan; Closing date: Extended to July 14.

Psychology. Research specialist in life sciences. Bachelor's degree in psychology, industrial organizational psychology preferred, and field research experience required. Must have at least two years experience as a research assistant and some knowledge of lifespan development. Contact Linda Pein, 333-6599 or l-pein@uiuc.edu; Closing date: Extended to July 21.

Cultural resource archaeologist. Bachelor's degree in anthropology or related field required. Experience working with Native American cultural resources, and in non-formal settings. Available: September 2001. Contact Joseph Mahoney, 244-8257. Closing date: November 15.

Academic professional positions available on all campuses of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Applications are invited for academic staff positions in all fields of study and for academic professional positions including librarians. Information about the University of Illinois is available on-line at the UI Home page: www.uiuc.edu. To complete an online employment application and to submit an exam request, visit the online Employment Center at www.uiuc.edu/jobs. Applications will be reviewed on a continuing basis.

Application/Inquiries: Office of Academic Human Resources, 1201 S. Sixth St., Champaign, IL 61820-6901; Phone: 217-333-3122. Email: jobs@uiuc.edu. Website: www.ahr.uiuc.edu/jobs/index.asp. Editor: Marty Yeakel. Calendar Photographer: Doris K. Dahl. News Bureau contributors: Jim Barlow, life sciences; William Dewey Green, history; Mark Reif, business; Delitha F. "Dee" Feltz, nursing; Robert J. Tucker, economics; Diana Lynn Seehuus, art education. News Bureau contributors also served as the library's Lincoln Memorial. Memorials: Champaign County Humane Society or a fund to be established in her memory to support the UI's Lincoln Room. Delilah S. Nesbitt, 86, died June 29 at her home in Sullivan. Feltz was a secretary for the department of mechanical and industrial engineering from 1921 until she retired in 1980. Memorials: Moultrie County Senior Center. poured its history and philosophy library for 34 years. She also was the curator of the library's Lincoln Memorial. Memorials: Champaign County Humane Society or a fund to be established in her memory to support the UI's Lincoln Room. Delilah S. Nesbitt, 86, died June 29 at her home in Sullivan. Feltz was a secretary for the department of mechanical and industrial engineering from 1921 until she retired in 1980. Memorials: Moultrie County Senior Center. poured its history and philosophy library for 34 years. She also was the curator of the library's Lincoln Memorial. Memorials: Champaign County Humane Society or a fund to be established in her memory to support the UI's Lincoln Room. Delilah S. Nesbitt, 86, died June 29 at her home in Sullivan. Feltz was a secretary for the department of mechanical and industrial engineering from 1921 until she retired in 1980. Memorials: Moultrie County Senior Center. poured its history and philosophy library for 34 years. She also was the curator of the library's Lincoln Memorial. Memorials: Champaign County Humane Society or a fund to be established in her memory to support the UI's Lincoln Room. Delilah S. Nesbitt, 86, died June 29 at her home in Sullivan. Feltz was a secretary for the department of mechanical and industrial engineering from 1921 until she retired in 1980. Memorials: Moultrie County Senior Center.

Taking the floor

University News Bureau.

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Business Administration. Assistant, associate or full professor. PhD or DBA required. Preference will be given to candidates with experience in research and teaching and research and teaching and experience and interests in competitive strategy, technology, innovation, and strategy. Experience preferred in core courses. Available: August 2001. Contact Joseph Malachi, 244-8257. Closing date: July 15.

Business Administration. Assistant, associate or full professor. PhD in management or a closely related field, with strong background in research, management and teaching education and outreach as well as demonstrated administrative skills. Available: January 2001. Contact Malachi 244-8257 or m-malachi@uiuc.edu. Closing date: October 15.

Labor and Industrial Relations. Assistant or associate professor. PhD in a recognized area of social science related to the teaching and research mission of the department, with a demonstrated record of research and teaching accomplishments. Available: August 2001. Contact Joseph Malachi, 244-8258 or m-malachi@uiuc.edu. Closing date: September 1.

Labor and Industrial Relations. Assistant professor. PhD in human resource development, labor relations, or a closely related field. Minimum one year of professional experience in human resource development, labor relations, or a closely related field. Available: Spring 2001. Contact Joseph Malachi, 244-8257 or m-malachi@uiuc.edu. Closing date: September 1.

Veterinary Biosciences. Assistant professor. Applicants should have a PhD in veterinary medicine, with demonstrated ability to secure extramural funding. Applicants should have a strong demonstrated interest in research. Available: August 2001. Contact Joyce Geary, 333-7981. Closing date: September 1.

Fund and Fine Arts. Associate director. Bachelor's degree preferred, plus 3 years experience. Candidate should have a strong track record of fundraising experience in higher education. Available: August 2001. Contact Theodore Hymowitz, 333-4554 or thyomowicz@uiuc.edu. Closing date: September 1.

Education. Assistant/associate dean for academic development. PhD or equivalent. Preference given to candidates with experience in life sciences or a closely related field and a history of success in writing and implementing grant applications. Apply by August 2001. Contact Search Committee, 333-0963 or deans@uiuc.edu. Closing date: August 15.

Foundation, UI. Regional director of development. Bachelor's degree required. Two to five years' experience in fund raising. Prefer strong record of achievement in higher education. Track record of successful major gifts and individuals. A candidate with a history of success in implementing academic policy. Available: August 2001. Contact Ronald Heman, 244-0741 or r-heman@uiuc.edu. Closing date: July 15.

Housing Division. Computer network administration specialist. Bachelor's degree preferred, plus three years' experience as network administrator using Microsoft NT. Available: August 2001. Contact Barbara Hamm, 333-8490 or b-hamm@uiuc.edu. Closing date: August 15.

Housing Division. Application development specialist. Bachelor's degree required, plus 3 years experience in data entry, word processing and a strong working knowledge of Microsoft Windows NT, Microsoft SQL Server, Microsoft Visual FoxPro and Knowledge of database-driven Web development tools. Available: August 2001. Contact Barbara Hamm, 333-8490 or b-hamm@uiuc.edu. Closing date: August 15.


Coordinating, Distribution of (WWW-AM-FM-TV) Coroutines. Bachelor's degree required with specialization in education, preferably early childhood. Broad two years' success in related teaching experience required. Must have an Illinois teaching certificate, plus one year of experience, personal computers, including Windows NT, Linux and related software, and experience working with multimedia. Contact Gail Appel, 333-0370. Closing date: July 17.

Cell and Structural Biology. Position is desired. Available: August 2000. Contact Joseph Malachi, 244-8257 or m-malachi@uiuc.edu. Closing date: July 15.

Research specialist in life sciences. Experience with computer technology and experience in computer assisted design preferred, as well as demonstrated ability to secure extramural funding. Available: August 2001. Contact Joseph Malachi, 244-8257 or m-malachi@uiuc.edu. Closing date: September 1.

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Bill Fisher manages the three UI Animal Sciences swine farms, which produce about 10,500 hogs a year and employ 10 full-time employees and about 10 part-time students. Fisher grew up on a 1,000-acre ranch near Nowata, Okla., and earned a bachelor’s degree at Oklahoma State University. He came to the UI for a master’s degree in swine production in 1974. After finishing his graduate study he worked in private industry and in 1988 was hired by the UI. He and his wife, Connie, live on a UI farm south of Champaign and have three children, Rachel, 20, Frank, 17, and Stuart, 12. Connie is a librarian at the Champaign library. They keep a horse in a local stable.

How did you acquire an affection for pigs?

It started young, when I was in 4-H. My dad raised pigs on our farm in Oklahoma so it kind of was a natural progression.

What does managing three swine farms require?

A lot of patience. [He laughs.] Actually it’s a very comfortable position because I have good people who work for us at each of the farms. I feel like I am somewhat of a liaison between the production at the farm and the research projects of our faculty and academic staff.

What kind of research would that be?

Well, each of the three farms has somewhat of a unique agenda. The Swine Research Center does nutrition research, and some physiology and behavioral research. The Moorman Swine Farm originated as a breeding farm for more traditional breeding research, but also in conjunction with ag engineering there is a lot of building research there. We’ve tried lots of different building styles and types, equipment and also done a lot of management research – different ways of handling the animals. And the Imported Swine Research Laboratory is dedicated to more of the biotech genetic work with swine. Developing transgenic lines and that kind of thing.

Where will the swine farms be moved to in the plans for a new South Farms?

The master plan puts us somewhat south of Curtis Road, probably split into three locations but not as far apart as we are today. We’ll be more consolidated.

I assume your new facilities will be state-of-the-art?

Okay, that’s a big part of our effort. Through UI Extension we can help other people see what works best. And we can do some of the testing and validation here so that they don’t have to spend the money to do it on their own farms. In fact, one of our C-FAR directives (Illinois Council on Food and Agricultural Research) is to be a waste-management odor-control proving center at the Moorman Swine Farm. So we’re trying lots of different practices – nutritional, physical and management of the building – to try to eliminate odor as best we can. The goal would be to develop the best management practices that are economically viable.

So do you like this job?

Yes, I do. Mostly I like the interaction with faculty [members] and the quality of the people I work with. And I like to see new things that are tested. The research is very exciting. And it gives me a certain identity. It’s nice to be associated with the UI.

What do you do when you’re not managing swine farms?

Well, I enjoy my children. I get involved with them – Scouts, Little League, football and those kinds of things. And I like golfing, although I don’t go as much as I’d like to.

What’s your wife’s opinion of hogs?

She has a degree in animal science. We met while I was a grad student here. And indeed, she loves them. So we found some common ground there.

And you enjoy eating pork?

Yes, I think pork is a wonderfully diverse meat product that provides great nutrition and value. I highly recommend it. In fact we’ve got to re-educate our public and our medical profession to what the value of lean pork is. The new USDA standards say that it’s leaner than chicken breast.

So we’ve hung our tag on “the other white meat” for a good reason.

Interview by Becky Mabry
**Tea time**

Shoeto Sato, the first artist-in-residence at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, recently performed the tea ceremony at Japan House for a group of students who were attending a week-long master class on the art of theatrical kimonos construction. Female costume designer's from throughout the country filled the audience, dressed in kimonos they had designed and stitched in the class. After the ceremony, Sato explained the tradition dates back to the 1500s and is performed in contemporary times as performance art, although he conducts the tea every day at his home in California. A native of Japan, Sato came to the United States in 1964. He created Japan House, and is credited for creating the Kabuki theater at Krannert.

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