**Nonprofit Land Bank Amasses Billions**
Charity Builds Assets on Corporate Partnerships

By Bart W. Stem
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Independence National Historical Park will be the centerpiece of a major fundraising appeal this year, as the nonprofit organization behind it has grown into a major player in the field of corporate giving.

**Iraqi Nuclear Site Is Found Looted**
U.S. May Be in Last Few Days of Weapons Race

NEAR IRAQ, May 3—A suspected Defense Department team, dispatched after a personal assistant of Saddam Hussein boasted that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction, found on Monday a facility that the United States says is a nuclear weapons research site.

**Brigade Seeks Top Honor for a Fallen Hero**

By William Henry
Washington Post Staff Writer

The 1st Infantry Division says that the unit’s 1-25th Infantry has been nominated for the Army’s highest award, the Medal of Honor, after a battle with an Iraqi force near Najaf.

**Daily Weather**

**Funky Cide Wins 129th Kentucky Derby**

By Mary Smith
Sports Columnist

Funky Cide made it three in a row for trainer Rick Violette, who won his fifth Kentucky Derby.

**SARS Can Live on Common Surfaces**
Key to Its Spread Lies in Quantity

By Bob significations

The viral pathogen that causes SARS can survive on common surfaces at room temperature for hours or even days, which could explain how people with the disease have infected others in such settings as hospitals and nursing homes.

**ISO Romance? Online Matchmakers Put Love to the Test**

By Arleen E. Liao

The Internet is changing the way people meet, and online matchmakers are benefiting from the trend.

**D.C. Patrol Staffing Falls Short**

Some Areas Get Just One Officer

By David A. Fahrenthold

The District of Columbia police department has been struggling to meet its staffing requirements.

**Iraqi Nuclear Site Is Found Looted**

By William F. Grimsley

The Pentagon said that troops had found a site that could be used for nuclear weapons research.

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The Nature Conservancy and Its Corporate Allies

The world's richest environmental group is groomed, funded and advised in secret by America's largest companies. Information comes from government agencies, court documents and advocacy groups.

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is the world’s leading member-based conservation organization, with 4.2 million members in 100 countries. The group campaigns to protect the world’s most imperiled lands and waters and to advance innovative policy solutions. TNC has a budget of about $800 million, a workforce of more than 5,000 people and offices in 57 countries.

The group was founded in 1951 by a few wealthy New York City based oilmen and is recognized as a potent lobbying force by the environmental community. The group’s president and CEO is Bruce Babbitt, a former Interior Secretary in the Clinton administration who was appointed to the position in 2005.

TNC’s corporate strategy is to use the image to gain what one corporate executive calls “reputational value.” A Conservancy focus group study said increased the known population of a rare bird in the Maryland woods. The group has been called “the most effective and most widely respected environmental organization in the world.”

The group is well-funded, raising $1.1 billion in 2010 and $680 million in 2011. It has purchased 116 million acres of land and water over the past 50 years. The Conservancy said in its 2012 report that it is working to protect 200 million acres

TNC also lobbies with its Conservation Leadership Council, a group of 200 companies, including General Electric and Exxon Mobil, that donate money and personnel to the group. The council, which was founded in 1990, promotes corporate environmental programs, including pollution credits.

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The Nature Conservancy’s Expanding Universe of People, Expenses . . .

DAILY 05-04-03 DM SU A22 CMYK

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