

# Stoltzfus is re-elected GOP leader in Md. Senate

Harris of Balto. County  
chosen as minority whip

11.13.02  
BY A SUN STAFF WRITER

Maryland's Republican state senators re-elected Sen. J. Lowell Stoltzfus to be their minority leader yesterday and picked Sen. Andrew P. Harris to be minority whip.

Stoltzfus, who represents the Eastern Shore, sought the Senate leadership position after ruling out any position in Gov.-elect Robert L. Ehrlich Jr.'s administration. He was said to be under consideration to head the Department of Natural Resources.

"I'm focused on my job here in the Senate," he said. "We're all on the same page. We're now talking about what it means to have a Republican governor and the responsibility we now have to help make things work."

Stoltzfus, a member of the Senate since 1992, was elected minority leader just before this year's General Assembly session after Martin G. Madden resigned from the Senate. He was unopposed yesterday.

Harris, who represents Baltimore County, was elected last week to his second term in the Senate. He will replace Sen. Larry E. Haines of Carroll County as minority whip. Harris and Haines are two of the Senate's most conservative members.

Haines had sought re-election after a year as the minority whip but was defeated by Harris. The party declined to release the vote totals.

The Republican members of the House of Delegates are to select their leadership Nov. 26.