

# SPOTLIGHT



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## Policy, awards, election highlight convention

*86th annual gathering held in Ocean City*

By Susan G. Summers  
Spotlight Editor

Maryland Farm Bureau members showed their unity and strength while making their way through policy issues at the 86th annual meeting and convention. Leadership, discussion and compromise helped form this year's policy platform, including the challenging nutrient management issue.

But when the complete policy package was passed, Washington County had captured the coveted Silver Bowl and friendships had been sparked or renewed, there was

*continued on page 3*



**State leadership**  
Stephen L. Weber, seated, of Baltimore was re-elected president of the Maryland Farm Bureau during the annual meeting. He is joined in leadership, from left, by Harry Moreland III of Denton, vice president; Michael Wilcom of Monrovia, vice president; and Earl "Buddy" Hance of Port Republic, first vice president.

## Andersons capture Young Farmer runner up title

Kevin and Elizabeth Anderson of Princess Anne traveled to the American Farm Bureau Federation Convention in Reno, Nevada, with no expectations. As Maryland's winners of the Young Farmer Achievement Award, the Somerset County couple had an all-expense paid trip to the 83rd annual gathering.

They came home from "the biggest little city in the world" with the fourth runner-up title and their choice of either 250 hours of free use of a Case IH tractor or ownership of a D29 compact tractor from Case IH.

*continued on page 25*



**YF Achievement announced**  
Elizabeth and Kevin Anderson, left, of Somerset County were recognized as the Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmer Achievement Award winners. Maryland Farm Bureau President Steve Weber, center, and Maryland Farm Bureau Young Farmer Chairman Ric Eaves, right, congratulated the couple during the banquet.

## State Farm Bureaus Earn Recognition for Stellar Programs

*Maryland honored at AFBF convention*

**RENO, Nev.** - A constellation of state Farm Bureaus shone brightly during the Gold Star Awards ceremony held at the American Farm Bureau Federation's 83rd convention and annual meeting.

Maryland Farm Bureau had a great showing with the national organization, earning six gold stars for the past year's work. Our organization captured honors in membership, Farm Bureau Women, Young Farmer and Rancher, leadership and organizational development, policy development and state and local governmental affairs.

Maryland was also recognized as the seventh ranked state in the nation for percentage of membership quota, finishing with 107.1 percent. We rank 35th in membership

*continued on page 22*

## 2002 General Assembly under way in Annapolis

*Nutrient management tops Farm Bureau wish list*

By Valerie Connelly  
MFB Government Relations Director

At a recent meeting of the Eastern Shore Delegation of the Maryland General Assembly, Speaker of the House Cas Taylor said that this session will be dominated by the three "R's." They are Redistricting, Re-election and Recession. He advised members that redistricting would distract everyone. He said that re-election would cause legislators to evaluate every vote for the impact it will have in November and may not lead to the best public policy. And, he warned that the recession would force legislators to make hard

*continued on page 25*

## FEATURES INSIDE

- 2 - MFB President's Column
- 2 - AFB President's Column
- 4 - MFB Women's Column
- 5 - New Director
- 5 - Agricultural Scholarships
- 6 - Heading to Annapolis
- 7 - Unite for Agriculture
- 8 - Membership
- 8 - Royal Writings
- 9 - 2002 State Policy
- 20 - FarmBureau Calendar
- 19 - House of Delegates Directory
- 20 - Senate Directory
- 24 - "Greenhouse Grower of the Year"
- 25 - Cookie Recipe



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