

Candidates gear up for Potomac primaries

by UPI

WASHINGTON -- Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois, fresh from a sweep of weekend voting, casts his eye to the so-called Potomac primaries Tuesday. Obama claimed wins over Hillary Clinton in Maine, Louisiana, Nebraska, Washington state and the U.S. Virgin Islands, CNN reported. Obama and Clinton were campaigning in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia the day before their primaries. After the weekend's results, Clinton replaced her campaign manager and longtime aide, the New York Times reported. The senator from New York replaced Patti Solis Doyle with another veteran aide, Maggie Williams. Tuesday's primary states have large pockets of black and highly educated voters who so far have favored Obama, but Clinton says she concedes nothing, USA Today reported Monday. "It's a matter of delegates," said Mark Rozell, a public policy professor at George Mason University, told the newspaper. "Even though she's likely to lose the popular vote, there's a real incentive for her to try to boost her numbers and increase her delegate count." Virginia is a hotly contested state on the Republican side, with Sen. John McCain of Arizona and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee attending numerous rallies.

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