

Obama, McCain projected Maryland victors

by UPI

ANNAPOLIS, Md. -- Sens. Barack Obama and John McCain were the projected winners based on early returns Tuesday in the Maryland presidential primary. With 4 percent of the vote in, Obama of Illinois had 68 percent of the Democratic vote to 29 percent for Sen. Hillary Clinton of New York, The Baltimore Sun reported. He had been expected to do well in Maryland, a state where blacks are a significant part of the Democratic electorate. On the Republican side, McCain of Arizona had 55 percent of the vote, while former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee had 33 percent and Rep. Ron Paul, R-Texas, trailed. Turnout was high in spite of a winter storm that fouled roads with freezing rain. An Anne Arundel county judge ordered the polls to remain open until 9:30 p.m., 90 minutes after the scheduled closing time, because of the weather. Some voters said they heard about the extension on the radio but were turned away because local polling places had not been notified.

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