Obama signs defaced in Indian Head Acres

By Anthony Anamelechi
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

Tallahassee police patrolled the Indian Head Acres neighborhood Thursday after more than 10 Barack Obama campaign signs were spray-painted, leaving residents irate.

Nick Baldwin's sign, like others in the neighborhood, had the president-elect's name covered in white spray paint and a "NO" written on it as well.

Tallahassee police interviewed residents who had their signs vandalized.

Baldwin had wanted his sign as a keepsake. Now he has to order a new one.

Peter Jones has been living in the neighborhood for three years and said he's never seen anything like this before. Though his sign was not vandalized, he said, he doesn't really care.

"As far as I'm concerned, the job is done," he said. "We wanted the man, not the sign."

Sue Wiley called TPD after seeing defaced signs when she drove home from work Thursday morning.

"It doesn't look good for our neighborhood, our city or our country for this type of stuff to be going on," she said.

Sinkhole closes section of Capital Circle Southeast

DEMONC PROSTT REPORT

A sinkhole large enough to swallow a car opened up Thursday morning along the north shoulder of Capital Circle Southeast.

The sinkhole led to the westbound lane being closed for several hours, but the road remained open after construction crews filled in the hole.

Starting Monday, the road will see alternating one-lane restrictions, so contractors can further investigate the sinkhole and find a long-term fix.

The land in southern Leon County is known for its porous karst features, which can lead to sinkholes from time to time.

"This is an active karst feature," said Jim Davis, executive director of Blueprint 2000. "Something has caused the soil on the ground to go through some subterranean hole. It's not an uncommon event because of the topography and geology of that whole area down there."

Construction crews working with Blueprint 2000 filled the hole with sand and used a cloth-like material to stabilize it. They put rock and asphalt on top. Davis said the final repair cost isn't yet known.

Blueprint 2000, a city/county agency overseeing road and park improvements through proceeds of a 1-percent sales tax, is widening Capital Circle from Tram Road to Woodville Highway. The construction cost is nearly $18 million. Widening currently is happening on the south side of the road.