



RUMSFELD

# President Bush stands behind Rumsfeld

WASHINGTON — Pulling rank, President Bush on Friday rebuffed recommendations from a growing number of retired generals that he replace Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld. "He has my full support," said the commander in chief.

Bush said Rumsfeld's stewardship at the Pentagon was crucial for the United States.

"Earlier today, I spoke with Don Rumsfeld about ongoing military operations in the global war on terror," the president

said. "I reiterated my strong support for his leadership during this historic and challenging time for our nation."

Bush's strong endorsement, conveyed in a statement released by the White House while Bush was at Camp David,

Md., for the weekend, appeared designed to blunt a rising clamor from within the ranks of retired commanders for Rumsfeld's ouster.

Six retired generals have called for

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# Ex-police officer pleads guilty

## He faces a year in jail in case of missing drugs

BY FRED DODSWORTH  
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

At his arraignment Friday afternoon, former Berkeley police Sgt. Cary Kent, 53, pleaded guilty to three felony charges related to drugs missing from the department's evidence locker.

Under an agreement negotiated with prosecutors, Kent is expected to be sentenced to no more than one year in county jail, Alameda County Deputy District Attorney James Penetta said.

"Kent pled guilty on all three counts," Penetta said. "Guilty rather

than no contest. This sentence is fair considering he was an officer and he betrayed the trust of the community."

Allegations have been made that Kent received special treatment, both by the Police Department and the prosecutors. Several times at Wednesday

evening's Police Review Commission meeting, speakers wanted to know why Kent's co-workers, members of the Special Enforcement Unit (including the department's Drug Task Force), didn't recognize that one of their officers had a

See EX-OFFICER PLEA, page 35



KENT

# Group's funds to go toward fountain fixes

Money will cover only some



# Mayoral candidates focus on city's

# Group's funds to go toward fountain fixes

Money will cover only some of the damage done recently

BY FRED DODSWORTH  
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

Once again someone smashed into the bollards protecting the restored Marin Circle fountain in North Berkeley, and once again Friends of the Fountain and Walk are stuck with the bill for the repairs.

## At a glance

**What:** The Berkeley City Council will accept \$1,685 from the Friends of the Fountain and Walk to help with repairs to the Marin Circle fountain.

**When:** Tuesday night at 7.

**Where:** City Council Chambers located at 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way.

**Why:** The fountain has been damaged by vehicles twice recently, once in July and once in the last month. The money, however, will cover only the repairs for the damage done in July.

While the city will formally accept a donation of \$1,685 from the Friends during Tuesday evening's City Council meeting, that sum covers only repairs for damage done in July, when a truck driver, over a 10-day period, ran over and destroyed numerous bollards around the fountain. The donation doesn't cover similar but accidental damage done last month, and the

Friends are having more difficulty getting people to donate this time.

On March 16 at 5:45 p.m. a large construction truck drove across the circle, rather than around it, when the driver discovered he was headed in the wrong direction in the one-way traffic circle. Last month, five protective bollards, costing a total of \$2,200, were destroyed

See FOUNTAIN FIXES, page 35



**REPAIRS NEEDED** — For almost 10 years Sara Holmes and other members of Friends of the Fountain and Walk have maintained and repaired the elegantly restored Marin Circle fountain in North Berkeley. And once again their work has been trashed by a truck driver who crashed into the circle doing thousands of dollars worth of damage. Daily News photo by Fred Dodsworth.

# May candidates focus on school

BY CATHY BUSSEWITZ  
DAILY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Four candidates for the Oakland Museum of Education with Roy

The longtime City policy, drew cheers

"We have a job that has to end," B

The candidates because the mayor Oakland, the school district declared ban creating a timetable school board.

Candidate Nadel changing the city gets of the school

"There is no more money than port health care," Nadel

All of the candidates asked what strategy the one planned Ignacio De La Fuente "I would get both they reach an agreement Nadel agreed

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