

Fire department's tower truck to be back in service after tests

By Robbyn Footlick

OF THE SENTINEL STAFF

WINTER PARK — The city fire department's only tower truck is expected to be back in service after it is tested Friday.

Assistant Fire Chief Larry Grainger said Wednesday that National Testing of Columbus, Ohio, will conduct tests on the welding and fully examine the truck, which has been undergoing repairs since April 15.

Grainger said the department is required to have special equipment, such as the tower truck, tested after major repairs or every year or two. The 5-year-old tower truck was last

tested in February 1983, he said.

In the 3½ months that the truck has been in the city garage, the pump and fixtures have been repaired, said Grainger. Some parts also have been replaced.

Motor transport superintendent Rodney Booth said the repairs have been held up because of delays in receiving replacement parts.

Since the truck has been out of service the department has received no calls requiring it. The tower truck is used mainly to fight fires in tall buildings and rescue people, Grainger said. If the Winter Park department needs a tower truck, it could get one from a neighboring city, such as Maitland, he said.