

Condo

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The present ordinance, adopted by the City Council in 1980, requires the developer to find comparable housing or provide a lifetime lease to residents if no such housing is available.

The ordinance change also would remove the "lifetime lease" requirement and would make the eligibility requirements of "special category" tenants more stringent.

In sometimes emotional testimony, 28 people, most of them elderly, criticized the proposal, some saying it would traumatize them to move, and others citing the lack of comparable housing available in Eugene.

Two people spoke in favor of the ordinance change, saying the restrictive ordinance has

chased developers away from Eugene, and two people advocated a compromise in which both the developer and the tenant would be accommodated.

Sen. Grattan Kerans, D-Eugene, received applause when he offered city councilors "a little friendly advice — a deal is a deal. These people here can't break their word to you" as taxpayers and citizens with responsibilities, he said. "You really oughtn't break your word to them."

Kerans said he is sponsoring a bill that would incorporate some of the provisions in Eugene's ordinance into a statewide ordinance.

"It would be a shame... to see this council break away from what can only be described as a moral commitment to

people who depend on you," he said.

Despite admonitions from Council President Debra Ehrman, the crowd of about 100 applauded several times, including Patterson Towers resident Charles Strong who said, "This ordinance has served its purpose well for seven years... If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Most people in the audience were residents of one of the three high-rise apartment complexes in Eugene not already converted to condominiums — Patterson Tower Apartments, Lane Tower Apartments and The Eugene Manor.

Eugene Manor resident Marie Talbot said it would "break my heart" to be pushed away from the sense of community that has

developed in her complex. "I demand my right to live where I want to live and live my own lifestyle."

Mary Stogsdill, a consultant specialist in rental housing, said while existing tenants should be allowed to stay in their apartments, the ordinance should be changed to avoid chasing developers away from Eugene.

"It is not fair to completely remove the options which should be available under a system of free enterprise," Stogsdill said.

But Allison Hassler with the Eugene Commission on the Rights of Women, said developers are getting an unfair advantage because of the ordinance change.

"We're sending a message that Eugene is willing to let women, men and children live in substandard housing to accommodate building developers," Hassler said.

Council members will continue discussing the issue at a Feb. 18 worksession.

IFC

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mind. I don't want to fund this group."

The Rape Crisis Network was granted the \$8,146 it requested. Mooney said, "We don't normally see a 158 percent increase in funds." However, the committee unanimously found the organization essential to the students of the University.

Mary Hotchkiss, development director for the program, said approximately 54 percent of the services the network offers are directed toward the University. After the decision to grant the full requested funds, Hotchkiss said, "What an utter pleasure and surprise this is."

The Latin American Support Committee requested \$2,771 but received \$1,790.

Committee member Bob Baldwin and ASUO Assistant Finance Coordinator Sarah Lachkar argued that LASC has been active, organized and supported on campus and should be an exception to the newly funded group tradition. The ASUO had recommended that LASC be granted \$2,279.

The Amazon Child Care Center received \$17,357 in funding, a 40.5 percent increase from last year.

The Jewish Student Union had a 3 percent increase in funds from last year, receiving \$3,223. The focus of new funding will be on mailings, speakers and a conference the JSU will sponsor in 1987.

Insurance

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Beckley said. "What I mean when I say 'risk' is that in exchange for premiums, the insurance carrier is willing to hold the financial risk of medical expenses being incurred by a given insured student."

"At this point, how long the conservatorship lasts depends on the commissioner," Odiorne said. "He could decide to do several things: allow the company to continue, reinsure it if necessary, sell off part of it or reduce the staff."

Beckley said his understanding from the Texas Department of Insurance is that this problem is expected to be resolved satisfactorily.

Charles Nicoloff of the Oregon State Insurance Division Company Section also said students should have nothing to worry about.

"In Oregon, we have a Life and Health Insurance Guarantee Association. If people have claims that the company for some reason is unable to pay, the association pays them," he said. "It's kind of like the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (F.D.I.C.) when a bank goes under."

ASUO Insurance Coordinator Shirley Chase said she is not worried about situation.

"Right now, it looks like we shouldn't have any problems. I know our claims are getting paid; I know it's not affecting that," she said. "I'm just waiting to see if we were going to get more information."

Mary Ann Maher, an account executive at Keystone, said the difficulty is mild and the company will have no problem paying claims.

"I will know more next week. I can say that all claims will be paid, but at this point, I don't know much more about the situation than anyone else."

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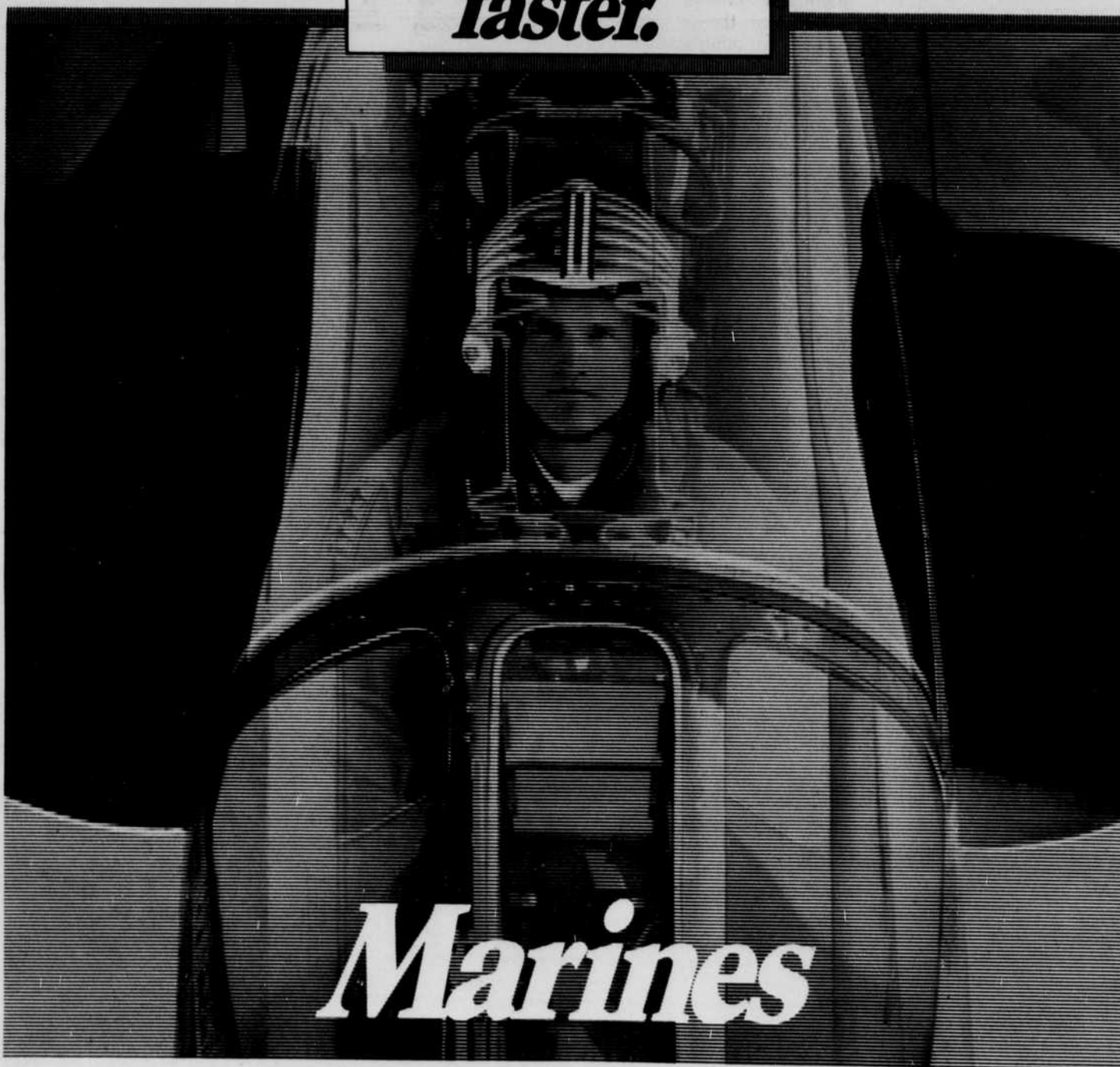
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