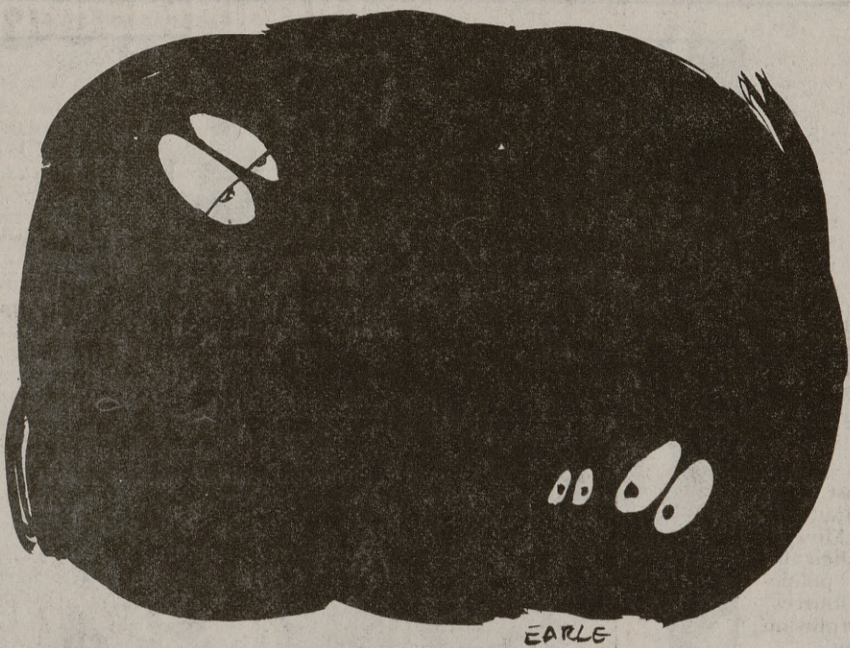


Slouch By Jim Earle



"Have you seen my armadillo?"

It's 11 p.m. — do you know where your dogs are now?

by Dick West
United Press International

WASHINGTON — I don't suppose we'll ever see the day when we can keep teenagers at home at night simply by leading them to their rooms and commanding "Stay!"

In fact, if strapped to a polygraph machine, I would have to confess I never had a dog that would go to bed at a decent hour either.

The only dogs I ever owned roamed all over the house at night, barking at imaginary intruders, shedding hair on the parlor sofa and making waves for the Tidy Bowl Man.

And my kids were equally troublesome.

In the best of all possible worlds, kids and dogs would respond to the same directives — heeling, fetching one's slippers and refraining from chasing cars at a given signal.

This sugarplum vision began dancing in my head after a talk I had with Steven Willett, director of the Eastern Regional Dog Obedience Championship recently

held in the University of Maryland armory.

I don't know which dog won what, but Willett gave me two booklets published by the contest sponsor, the maker of Gainesburgers and other canine goodies.

The titles are "The Dog in Society" and "What Every Good Dog Should Know." Substitute the word "child" in the appropriate places and you have publications a parent could find instructive, too.

When I started questioning Willett about his line of work, he said: "I wish I had gotten involved in it sooner. I might have done a better job of raising my two daughters."

Asked to elaborate, Willett, whose household includes a golden retriever as well as teenage girls, told me:

"Dogs and children are alike in wanting to know what's expected of them. Kids are always testing their perimeters the way dogs are. Consistency is the most important element in training both. And the trainers should be lavish with praise. Both pets and children are eager to

please, but they must know what they want them to do."

I told Willett the only thing I ever learned was how to bury their in a supper dish, a trick for which needed no guidance.

Willett, ever alert, obviously trained to recognize a dog food cue when he hears one.

"Good nutrition is a prime requisite of obedience training," he said. "Dog owners should always think of the well-being of their pets."

It was, however, the two booklets really opened my eyes.

"In some extreme situations, the dog may be the only means of communication in a household," I

"Family members under stress with other usually can relate via a affection and concern for their pet. It has been suggested that veterinarians be valuable members of community health counseling groups."

Ah, yes. As the old saying goes, let that paper-trains together, together.

Senator wants better GOP image

by Steve Gerstel
United Press International

WASHINGTON — Sen. Bob Packwood, once a bit of political boy wonder, is now perilously close to 50 and in need of a cause to lead.

The one he has chosen is most meritorious: to improve the Republican party's image with blacks, hispanics, Jews and women. To achieve this goal, the third-term Oregon Republican wants to lead a drive against restrictive social and civil rights legislation.

"I'm reaching 50 years of age," he said recently. "I've been in the Senate 14 years and right now am looking at what I want to do with the rest of my life."

In a period when the Republican Party is terribly dominated by conservatives, the moderate-liberal wing is in desperate need of a strong leader.

If he assumes the mantle, Packwood is in for a frustrating and very probably hopeless fight.

In the past, the concept of a more open Republican party committed to social and civil rights has not been embraced by the GOP except in cheap rhetoric.

Strong, well-known national leaders of the recent past such as Nelson Rockefeller, Jacob Javits and William Milliken were frustrated.

Packwood is not, at least not yet, in their class and the climate is much worse.

The Oregon senator claims a "lot of senators" have indicated their support for his positions but are reluctant to speak out.

"They say to me, 'I'm glad somebody said that,'" Packwood said.

At least Packwood is perfectly situated. The Senate is the showcase arena where conservatives are pushing the most restrictive social legislation.

The Senate has already approved legislation which forbids courts to order school busing more than 5 miles or 15 minutes one way — tantamount to outlawing the practice.

A bill is pending which rules that human life begins at inception — making an abortion a murder. Other anti-abortion measures are in the wings. There are also moves to permit voluntary prayer in public schools and efforts will be made to stop an extension of the voting rights act.

It is a perfect time for Packwood to begin displaying his leadership. The question remains whether he can or will?

Over the off-and-on nine months the Senate spent before finally passing the busing measure, it was Sen. Lowell Weicker, R-Conn. — not Packwood — who did the leading.

In fact, the opposition to the busing legislation was pretty much a solo job by Weicker except during rollcall votes.

Although Packwood's opposition to abortion legislation is well-known, clear, frequently enunciated and long-held, there have been other senators who took on more clearly-defined leadership roles for the Republicans.

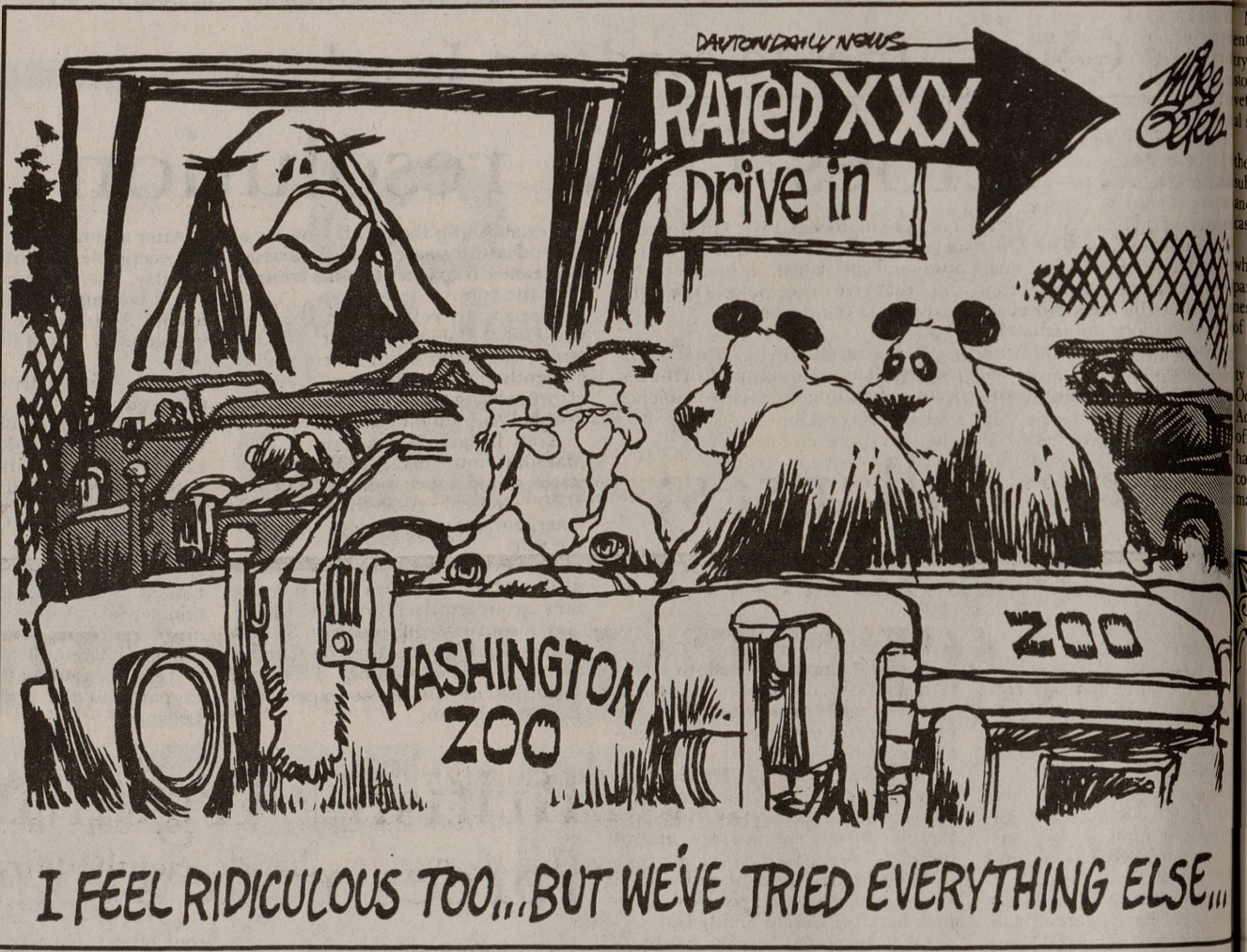
For many years, as the legislation became more and more restrictive, former Sen. Edward Brooke of Massachusetts carried the torch. Later, it was again Weicker.

Packwood was the self-appointed Republican leader opposing the sale of AWACs to Saudi Arabia. But to the disgust of his allies on the Democratic side, Packwood turned out to be strong on talk and weak on the grinding work that builds majorities.

And Packwood cannot get any help along the way from the White House.

His brand of Republicanism is not in favor at the other end of the avenue and his recent potshots at President Reagan have shut down communications.

It would help the Republican party to have an eloquent and effective leader for the small but still loyal moderate-liberal wing of the party. Packwood may not be the man.



Public allowed to see both sides

by David S. Broder

WASHINGTON — Yesterday (Saturday), President Ronald Reagan made the last of ten scheduled weekly Saturday afternoon talks to the nation. An hour after he finished, the seven radio networks that carried his talk also broadcast the Democratic Party's reply, delivered by Sen. Howard M. Metzenbaum (D-Ohio).

Strange as it may seem, this unremarkable sequence represents a significant breakthrough in the cause of public policy debate. These talks were, from everything I can learn, the longest sustained exchange of views between spokesmen of the opposing parties, under near-equal conditions, in recent political history.

Nor is this the only good news on this front. Twice this year, the major television networks have afforded the opposition party the opportunity for quick replies to televised addresses by the President, under terms that provided access to audiences of equal or nearly equal size.

One came after the President's State of the Union address, when CBS and NBC followed immediately with a half-hour film prepared by the Democratic Party, and ABC aired it with only a half-hour delay. The second came after Reagan's April 29 speech on the budget, which all three networks followed immediately with the response by Rep. Richard Bolling of Missouri, the Democrat's spokesman.

Congratulations are in order for both the broadcast executives and the Democratic Party officials who pushed very hard for what has been achieved.

Senate Minority Leader Robert C. Byrd (D-W.Va.), Speaker of the House Thomas P. (Tip) O'Neill, Jr. (D-Mass.), Democratic National Chairman Charles T. Manatt and their top public relations aides became both aggressive and persis-

tent in seeking broadcast access, when they saw last year how effectively Reagan was using the air waves to build support for his legislature program in Congress.

In one instance—confirmed by both sides—a turnaround by a network news chief of the Democratic request for reply time was followed by a call to the network president from O'Neill and then by a call to the chairman of the parent company's board from Byrd. On the third try, the Democrats got what they wanted.

The result has been that on these occasions, and on the past ten Saturdays, listeners have heard two sides of the case, not just one. The quick replies have also meant a better dialogue between the parties in the next morning's newspaper stories.

Broadcast executives from the three networks with whom I discussed this history all said they were simply following their traditional policy of "fairness," in according expression to contrasting views when the President is discussing controversial subjects.

For understandable reasons, they were all eager to maintain that there has

been no change of policy. ABC News executive David Burke said, in a context typical of many others, "If the Democrats think they have established a precedent that every time the President speaks will reply immediately, they're in the land."

But if the policy has not changed, practice seems different. In recent years, under Presidents of both parties, right of reply, the date, the time, the format and—in some cases—even the choice of the opposition spokesmen seem to depend, not on the wishes of the leadership, but on the whim of the broadcast executives.

In those days, as an O'Neill aide remarked, an opposition-party congressional leader was apt to find himself of a smorgasbord of responses, broadcast two days after the presidential address and given no more status than any other interest-group spokesmen invited by the network to comment.

This year's pattern represents a big improvement over that. The parties' political process and the public are served by what has been happening

The Battalion

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Questions or comments concerning any editorial matter should be directed to the editor.

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the small society

by Brickman



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