### Packages - Freedom Issue #3063

**[cowsay]: blacklist entry**

2021-07-13 05:58 AM - bill-auger

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status:</th>
<th>open</th>
<th>% Done:</th>
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<td>Assignee:</td>
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<td>Category:</td>
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**Description**

This blacklist entry had no bug reference; and it is not obvious why it was blacklisted.

The blacklist description is given as:

```
[nonfree] website of the source code is unavailable
```

Indeed, that is true; but it is not a valid blacklist reason - obviously, the source code is available (it was moved to github) - the entry passes the lint-check, only because the [nonfree] tag is valid (which I believe is erroneous, and the given description does not support that tag).

The only difference between extra/cowsay and libre/cowsay, is that the parabola package uses debian as the upstream source, which is incomplete (it has deleted some files as offensive[SIC], which debian packages as 'cowsay-off')

I don't see any reason to re-package it, because:

1. None of the files were removed for the given [nonfree] reason
2. The extra/cowsay and libre/cowsay package and PKGBUILD are otherwise identical
3. It is not a useful program, merely a gag, so it could just as well be blacklisted without a replacement

WRT licensing, it entered the blacklist in a batch, along with several other PERL-dependent packages, with this changelog message:

**Note:**

```
add multiple perl packages to blacklist
```

Note on "Perl 5 License": Some packages, use "Perl 5 License" (dual license - "GPL" (v1+) and nonfree "PerlArtistic" (Artistic 1.0) license), the "PerlArtistic" license are ignored.

The PerlArtistic 1.0 license is considered to be non-free; but the PERL5 license is a disjunctive dual license, permitting it to be taken under the GPL; so this does not appear to be a valid blacklist reason either.