FREDDY 05/05/16 J. ROGERS

 You see him on Saturdays at Ramer Field and you see him roaming the UW-River Falls campus. Freddy Falcon brings a positive attitude and he puts pep in everyone’s step no matter if it is a UWRF football game or if it is a normal Tuesday afternoon. Jake Rogers has the story.

MP3 R/T: 1:17 O/C: “… I’M JAKE ROGERS.”

JAKE ROGERS: WHILE THE 5,958 STUDENTS AT UW-RIVER FALLS AND THE FACULTY CAN CALL THEMSELVES FALCONS, IT HAS NOT ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY. IN THE FALL OF 1930, THE STUDENT VOICE HELD A CONTEST TO GIVE U-W-R-F A MASCOT. HARRY ROESE, A STUDENT AND FOOTBALL PLAYER AT U-W-R-F, CAME UP WITH FALCONS, ACCORDING TO DAN MCGINTY, DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS AND THE DE-FACTO FREDDY FALCON HISTORIAN. MCGINTY SAID THAT FALCONS ATTAINED 433 OUT OF THE 547 TOTAL VOTES. ROESE WON THREE DOLLARS FOR COMING UP WITH THE MOST POPULAR MASCOT. IN 1970, FREDDY FALCON WAS INTRODUCED. A DECADE LATER, STUDENT SENATE PURCHASED THE FIRST FREDDY FALCON SUIT. DUE TO AN UNUSUAL REASON, THE FREDDY FALCON SUIT HAD TO BE REPLACED. ACCORDING TO MCGINTY, THE ORIGINAL FREDDY FALCON SUIT HAD TO BE REPLACED BECAUSE IT WAS SCARING SOME PEOPLE. JIM KROM SKETCHED THE CURRENT DESIGN OF FREDDY FALCON. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS, FACULTY, AND STAFF ARE WELCOME TO RESERVE FREDDY FALCON FOR EVENTS. MCGINTY SETS UP OVER 60 ALUMNI EVENTS DURING THE YEAR, AND HE SAYS THAT FREDDY FALCON MAKES AN APPEARANCE AT THOSE EVENTS. FOR THE FALCON NEWS SERVICE, I’M JAKE ROGERS.

 The Freddy Falcon suit is available to be borrowed by anyone on campus through UWRF University Communications and Marketing.

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