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(Wyo.)-University Of Wyoming Tribble Receives Its Name

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 11/06/2012 10:17 AM

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - Hundreds of Star Trek fans entered a contest to name an old ball of fake fur at the University of Wyoming.

"Furry Ackerman" is the new name for the vintage TV prop called a tribble.

The winning name was suggested by two people: Edwin Bode, of Middle Village, N.Y., and Tom Lenahan, of Kansas City, Mo.

Tribbles originated with a 1967 Star Trek episode in which thousands of the furry little creatures with no legs, heads or even eyes overpopulated the Starship Enterprise.

These days, authentic tribbles are collector's items. One tribble lives at the University of Wyoming among items donated by the late science fiction editor Forrest J. Ackerman.

The American Heritage Center at UW received 450 entries for its tribble-naming contest to promote American Archives Month in October.