

History of Regalia

Source: University of Illinois archives and Library

Year	Month and day	Count	Event
1926		LL's personal set of regalia/1 st personal headdress	Regalia was handmade by Lester Leutwiler
1926	through 1928	LL's 2 nd and 3 rd personal headdresses	In his tenure as Chief, Mr. Leutwiler made additional headdress each year for a total of three <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One had a blue-beaded band with 28 immature primary and secondary bald eagle feathers • One had a white-beaded band with 66 golden eagle wing feathers • No description is available for the third
1930		1st set of regalia and headdress purchased by the University	Regalia was purchased by Webber Borchers (after fundraising campaign that netted between \$35 and \$40 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation • Headdress contained 91 eagle feathers • Regalia consisted of a tunic, breast plate, leggings, and moccasins • The moccasins from this set of regalia eventually wore out and wear replaced
1930	through 1967		Webber Borchers regalia was used
1940s			A peace pipe and bearclaw necklace were stolen
1952			Jos. Kuhn funded a "facelift and renovation" of the regalia that was in use
1967	9/3	2 nd set of regalia purchased by the University/1 st headdress was reworked and reused	New regalia consisted of a shirt and pants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breast plate for this set was made by former Chief Mike Mondelli • Choker was made by former Chief Mike Mondelli • The gloves from the Frank Fools Crow set of regalia were used with this shirt and pants
1968			The new set of regalia was cited as having been made by an "expert on Indian lore"
1970	6/17		The Department of Fish and Wildlife approves the "loan" of eagle feathers to the University for "public educational and exhibit purposes"
1982	5/07		Marching Illini director Gary Smith and Assistant Athletic Director Tom Porter met Frank Fools Crow to discuss acquiring a new set of regalia
1982	5/10		Mr. Smith requested \$3,500 to fund the purchase of regalia

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1982	5/25		An invoice voucher was issued for the regalia
1982	9/07	3 rd set of regalia/2 nd headdress purchased	<p>The Marching Illini announced that Chief Illiniwek would begin using the new regalia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This set included: tunic, leggings, moccasins, breastplate, and a headdress with 28 golden eagle tail feathers • This headdress had no "trail" (i.e., it was a short bonnet-style headdress), so it was never used by Chief Illiniwek • A separate document referenced a blanket (which was a personal gift from Mrs. Fools Crow to Mrs. Smith) and peace pipe that Mr. Fools Crow brought to use in a presentation ceremony
1982	9/16		A letter was written to correct a mistake in the 1982 football guide, which said the regalia had been a gift from a Sioux chief, when it had actually been purchased for \$3,500
1983	7/25		Mr. Leutwiler said in a letter that he was donating the original set of regalia to the University and that a dedication ceremony would be held homecoming weekend
1987	8/11		President Stanley Ikenberry sent a letter to the Oglala Sioux Council asking that someone complete the effort to rework the Fools Crow bonnet-style headdress with 25 loose feathers to create the desired trail
1990	10/05		Alumni Association was in possession of at least one so-called "roach" headdress that contained two turkey feathers (likely one from Mr. Leutwiler's personal collection)
1990	10/05	3 rd and 4 th headdresses purchased	<p>Two new headdresses were created by Roy Hanks of Tolono, and were described as containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tail feathers of a white domestic turkey • Wing feathers of a white domestic turkey
1990	11/05		Handwritten notes (author unknown) referred to a phone call with Anthony Whirlwind Horse, in which he said the eagle feathers in the 1982 headdress were lent, not sold, to the University
1990	8/29		Researchers in the Center for Wildlife Ecology examined the two headdresses in use at that time and determined they both were made with turkey feathers
1991	1/09		A letter was sent to Anthony Whirlwind Horse explaining that the University wanted to return a headdress to Chief Fools Crow's family and asking to whom the

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			headdress could be sent
1991	5/21		The Department of Fish and Wildlife sent a copy of the original permit for the University to have 18 golden eagle tail feathers and seven golden eagle secondary feathers
1991	5/22	At this point, the University owned 3 sets of regalia and 3 headdresses	A shipping bill confirmed that a three-pound headdress was sent to Anthony Whirlwind Horse
1991	5/23		Judy Rowan of Public Affairs sent a letter to the Department of Fish and Wildlife stating that 25 eagle feathers that had once been in the possession of the University had since been returned to Chief Fools Crow and that a headdress had been given to Anthony Whirlwind Horse; the note refers to one pre-1940 headdress still in the University's possession
1991	6/14		The returned headdress was presented to Chief Fools Crow's daughter (presumably at the Pine Ridge Reservation)
1992			Bill Hayes sewed a new set of gloves
1992	3/23		Pat Hayes of the Alumni Association confirmed that Lester Leutwiler was in possession of three headdresses "that belong to him"
1993	1/05		The only remaining headdress with eagle feathers was from 1930 (which was grandfathered in under the restrictions on possession of eagle feathers); the two Leutwiler headdresses were returned to Mr. Leutwiler
1993	10		Lester Leutwiler's artifacts were on display on the main floor of the Union
1996	9/17		A memo was sent to the Department of Fish and Wildlife stating that the Band no longer had possession of any eagle feathers, as the only ones still on campus had been moved to the Office of the Chancellor in the Swanlund
2003			Headdress stored in the Swanlund Administration Building was moved to the Athletic Department
2006		1 st set of regalia	"Webber Borchers regalia" stored at Sousa Archives
2006		2 nd and 3 rd sets of regalia	In use by current Chief Illiniwek and assistant Chief Illiniwek
2006		Leutwiler regalia	Assumed to be in the possession of Mr. Leutwiler's family
2007	1/18		Sioux demand return of regalia in possession of the University of Illinois