

Archives & Manuscript Collections
National Sporting Library
Middleburg, VA

Bold Minstrel Photo Albums

Name: **Bold Minstrel** **MC0038**

Materials: Photograph Albums

Dates: 1959-1973

Volume: 0.5 cubic feet

Donation: Lefreda Williams, 2016.

Usage: Unless otherwise stated by NSL staff, these records are open for research without restrictions.

Historical Note

Born in 1952 in Camargo, Ohio, Bold Minstrel was by Thoroughbred stallion Bold And Bad out of Wallise Simpson, who was the result of a test breeding of an unknown mare to a young Royal Minstrel. William "Billy" Haggard III purchased Bold Minstrel as a 5-year-old.

Topping out at 16.3 hands, Bold Minstrel was affectionately nicknamed "Fatty." Bold Minstrel's career actually began in the hunter ring, and his stunning looks and lovely jump garnered him dozens of ribbons in the conformation divisions across the country, including a reserve national championship at the National Horse Show (N.Y.).

In 1959, Haggard and Bold Minstrel tackled the Pan American Games in Chicago, and helped the U.S. team win the silver medal in addition to placing ninth individually. Four years later, they were sixth individually in San Paulo, Brazil, and clinched the team gold. Between those two Games, Haggard still campaigned Bold Minstrel in the hunter ring.

While it seemed like the pair would be a shoo-in for the Olympic Games in Tokyo the following year, the selectors did not include them on the team. However, when J. Michael Plumb's mount, Markham, had to be euthanized on the flight over, Haggard loaned Bold Minstrel to the veteran rider.

Since Bold Minstrel was only 12 after his first Olympic Games, Haggard decided to continue to campaign him. However, as the horse had already reached the highest levels of two sports, he loaned him to Bill Steinkraus. Steinkraus rode the gray gelding in numerous international show jumping events between 1964 and Bold Minstrel's retirement in 1970. They won more than a dozen major competitions, including the Grand Prix of Cologne (Germany). In 1967, they also set

two puissance records at the fall indoor shows, jumping 7'3" at the National Horse Show.

Bold Minstrel competed in his third Pan American Games in Winnipeg in 1967 and again earned the team silver. That medal made Bold Minstrel the only horse to have medals in three Pan American Games and one Olympic Games in two disciplines.

Bold Minstrel continued to compete well into his late teens and eventually retired in 1970 at 18 years old. That year, he won three times at Lucerne (Switzerland) and won the Democrat Challenge Trophy at his old stomping grounds, the National Horse Show. After he retired from competition, Haggard took him home to his farm and foxhunted him.

Historical Note includes information by Coree Reuter in Chronicle of the Horse, Feb. 2, 2011.

Collection Description

The collection includes four albums of photographs and select clippings covering Bold Minstrel's career from 1959 to 1973.

Series and Subseries

- I. Photograph Albums** **4 albums**
 Four albums of photographs and clippings of Bold Minstrel's career in eventing, jumping, and Olympic competition.

Container List MC0038

I. Photograph Albums, 1959-1973

<u>Location</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
MC0038 01	Photograph album	1958-1962
MC0038 02	Photograph album	1960-1964
MC0038 03	Photograph album	1964-1969
MC0038 04	Photograph album	1969-1973

This collection was processed by John Connolly, September 2016.