Conigliaro wants third try at DH j

United Press International

NEW YORK — Tony Conigliaro is going to give it another try.

He wants to make another comeback, No. 3 for him, and asks you to give him one good reason why he can't do it.

If Muhammad Ali thinks he can become the first man in boxing history to win the world heavyweight title three times, Tony Conigliaro thinks he has an even better chance of becoming the first man in baseball history to win a designated hitter's job with some American League club on his third crack.

Why not? He's three years younger than Ali. And he's in better physical shape. All you have to do is look at him.

This isn't one of those impulsive decisions on his part, something that suddenly popped into his mind while he was lying in bed one night or sitting in a barber's chair having his hair styled.

The former Boston outfielder has given the matter a lot of thought and is thoroughly confident he can help some club with his bat. He's sure he can.

"Everytime I see Carl Yastrzemski hit a home run, everytime I see Ron Fairly or Willie McCovey get a big base hit, I say to myself, 'Hey, Conigliaro, you can still do the same thing. You may have four more good years left," says Tony C.

Yaz will be 39 next month; Fairly and McCovey both are 40. Conigliaro is younger than all of them at 33. He generally played at 190 with the Red Sox. Right now, he weighs 187 and he not only looks fit, but is fit because he works at it.

For the past two years and 10 months, Conigliaro has been a sportscaster as well as a partner with his younger brother, Billy, in a banquet wedding facility and golf course in Nahunt, Mass.

He's now working for KGOTV in San Francisco, owned and operated by ABC, and it has been three years since he last wore a Red Sox uniform.

Today, he's going to wear one again.

He'll be at Fenway Park in Boston where a TV crew will be recreating the near tragedy which forced Conigliaro out of baseball for more than a year on Aug. 18, 1967. That was the day he nearly lost his left eye after being hit by a pitch thrown by Jack Hamilton, and the episode is part of a new TV series called "Comeback" that also will focus on the careers of Frank Sinatra and Freddie Fender, the noted country western singer, among others.

When you talk to Tony Conigliaro about the "coincidence" of his own planned comeback and the title of the new TV series he's doing, and raise the question the whole thing may be nothing more than a publicity stunt to plug the show, he doesn't overreact one bit.

"All I can say is at this moment, in all seriousness, I'm contemplating a third comeback in baseball," he says. "People can think what they like, but I know the feeling I have in my heart.

"I was doing some interviews in connection with my job at the Mets' Old Timers' Day celebration Saturday and I talked with Willie Mays, Don Larsen, Pete Runnels and Ron Hunt among others. Most of them were playing that two inning game they have for fun and a chance to be recognized as athletes again. But when I walked out on the field, my mind was telling me, 'Tony, get back in baseball again, you belong.'"

Conigliaro was vote Player of the Year in his return from his e one year later he had ever with the Red Sox runs and hitting 36 ho

After moving to the being released by the of baseball three-ye and then tried comeb the Red Sox in 1975.

He had a great sp hitting .360 in Florid hamstring and tore a May and subsequen leased.

"I flat out beat designated hitter's in 1975," he says. "I w the baseball and he wasn't anything more But I tried to beat a cold, damp day in Ne when we should played, I ripped my was that.

"For anyone who cere when I say I wa again now, I can say storm. Not once, but can do it again beca natural ability plus push my body so make up for the more I've been away. My as it was in 1970, the best season. And any himself what kind of

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Nicklaus tries to his slu

United Press In

ST. ANDREWS, Heaven help us, Jack a slump. You can bet says so himself.

The Grand Master won a tournament he regretfully said game hasn't been three months."

Not only has Nic his thumbs anxiou 82nd victory as a pro worse, he hasn't won pionship since the string of 10 failures Bear, this no longer almost an embarrass

Once before Nic such a waiting str After capturing th Open, he went 12 victory. He ended winning the British

Curiously enough victory came at St same site where th pionship is being sta day. The similarity hasn't escaped Nicklaus.

"It'd be a nice about history repeat is a nice place to wi

The 38-year-old mitted recently tim out on him as far as was concerned, has remarkable record Open. In the 12 years has won twice, been times, finished third had one fourth, fifth His stroke average with a final day avera

Last year, in what the most exciting he of the entire tour, by a shot to Tom Turnberry. The two been listed as 6-1 co-f current championship

Despite his prob Nicklaus has found encouraged with his week and a half ago weeks of searching teacher, Jack Grout, his swing.

"It was one min simple it was ridicul said. "I was awfully hand and couldn't rele couldn't get underne the top and I couldn't up to where I alwa front of the ball.

"So, I strengthened a little and was able ball rather than befor Canada (for the Can was hitting a 2-iron else was hitting 3 or was ridiculous. I have the ball well since th

Watson, who has Open two of the la visited St. Andrews last week, playing tw

A field of 155 is exp this morning on the St. Andrews, the birt

Spinks

United Press Inter

HILTON HEAD IS — Leon Spinks turned Tuesday and the world champion had a f thoughts for the occasi

"I'm up on the high the hill yet," said Spin recently begun training resort for his Sept. 15 Muhammad Ali. "I'm over the hump."

Spinks said he felt he a little wiser with age.