

JONES TAKES CHESHIRE TITLE FOR THIRD SUCCESSIVE YEAR

Bennett loses but his time will come

By a Special Correspondent

J. T. Jones (Upton-by-Chester) enhanced his reputation as a match player at Mere on Saturday, when he won the Cheshire amateur golf championship for the third year in succession by beating J. R. Bennett (Warrington) in the 36-hole final by 6 and 5. He is the first golfer in the county to win the title three times.

Apart from the second round, in which he was closely challenged by P. Clark, a former holder, Jones had very little of anxiety. Before lunch during the outward half in the final he was not quite the consistent performer he had been, and at the turn he was 2 down with a score of 40 to 38. Afterwards his golf was superb—strong and accurate driving and excellent pitching supported by putting of the highest quality. Indeed, he never seemed in danger of missing anything from six feet.

His 32 home, which included a 4 at the short twelfth, enabled him to complete the first round with a lead of two holes. He squared at the fourteenth with a two by holing from four yards, and he won the fifteenth and sixteenth in each case with a score better than that on the card. The seventeenth was the only hole where his tee shot was off the line. But he pitched nobly over sand, and once again protected his lead with his putter.

Bennett had not been too secure on the greens, though at times he was distinctly unlucky. However he did get

down from four yards at the eighteenth to save himself from becoming three down. He was round in 74.

There was evidence that Bennett would make a closer fight of it in the afternoon when he won the first two holes. But Jones soon regained his ruthlessness. He won five holes in a row from the fourth, the seventh with another fine chip and putt after being almost out of bounds with his second shot, and at the tenth he putted from nine feet to maintain his lead of five holes after Bennett had played a superb iron from the rough, one of the best shots of the final.

Bennett's golf was adequate indeed, and against most other competitors he probably would have succeeded. At 24, Jones's junior by 20 years, he revealed a composure in his first final that indicated his time will come. He had previously never survived the first round.