

# BURKE LEADS WITH 143—MRS. DAVIS SHENECOS

## Titlist Shoots 72 and 71 as State Tourney Opens

Brilliant Play Thrills Spectators—Cawley Second with 146—MacColl Third.

BY MICHAEL J. THOMAS  
Johnny Burke of Wampanoag made an auspicious start in the defense of his State amateur golf championship at Wampanoag yesterday. Puts and birdies rattled off the club of the 19-year-old Newporter with monotonous regularity as he compiled rounds of 72 and 71 to win medalist honors by five strokes.

Spectators were thrilled at the brilliant shooting of Burke, who if victorious in his quest of the title this week, will become the first golfer to win the crown three years in succession. Playing with apparent ease, Burke personified a golfing machine as he continually banged fairway shots dead to the pin.

With better putting luck and more determination, he might have broken 70 on each round. His play yesterday made him a more pronounced favorite for the championship.

Seldom, if ever, in the annals of this championship has a player uncorked the shots that Burke did. Records were not available, but it was believed that Burke's 143 is the lowest score ever made in the qualifying round of the championship.

Burke made but one poor shot during his double journey over the difficult Runford layout, whose pars seldom has been cracked in competition. That one erratic shot was at the 35th, where from a close, sandy lie, he cut his shot far to the right of the green into a gully. He made a remarkable recovery, however, and just missed a six-footer for a par four.

Veteran observers, including George Gordon, Wampanoagist professional, who has witnessed hundreds of tournaments, rated Burke as the best amateur golfer ever produced in Rhode Island. They could see no flaws in his game.

A standout in the State amateur the past two years, Burke's game has improved considerably during that time and if he continues to display the golf he did yesterday, it appears that the championship may develop into a one-man show.

There were others besides Burke who turned in superb performances. There was Jim Cawley, 24-year-old Wampanoag product, who finished second with 146. Cawley, playing exceptionally steady, was tied with Burke at the half-way mark with his 72. He used up two more strokes in the afternoon, but his 146 represents a fine performance.

Kenneth D. MacColl of Agawam Hunt, twice runner-up in the championship, turned in another fine performance. Returned to competition after an absence of nearly two years, MacColl posted a pair of 73s for 150 to finish in third place.

With the exception of an eight at the 35th, he played steady golf. He had putts for birdies off hole after hole, so accurate were his fairway shots. A proved, able competitor, and with his shots clicking again in fine style, he loomed as a distinct threat for the title.

It was a field day for Wampanoag, for that club had four representatives among the first seven. C. H. "Skinny" Edwards, who was runner-up to Brad Cushman the last time the championship was played at Wampanoag, finished fourth with 75-75-152. Don Gil was seventh with rounds of 77-75-152.

Louis Cicciello of East Providence, Britte public links titleholder, made a fine showing, finishing fifth with 77-75-152. The 14th hole proved Cicciello's nemesis each time he played it. He used poor judgment on his first visit trying in attempting to drive over the pond, which calls for a carry of 250 yards. His tee shot, well hit, caught the water, costing him a six. He was not as daring on his second attempt, but on the third he encountered other trouble.

Cicciello is the youth who carried Burke to the 18th hole in the 1934 State junior championship.

With the exception of John A. Gammons, Jr. of Warwick and B. Fernald of the Rhode Island Country Club, all of the players expected to qualify were among the 32 low scorers.

Fernald, along with Cede St. Pierre of Metacomb, was eliminated in the two-hole play-off that was held to fill the final three places in the championship division. The three successful players in the play-off were Jack Roberts of the Rhode Island Country Club, Edwin Gammons of Warwick and Dave Brown, youthful Potowomut representative. Each of these players had 36-hole totals of 172s. The qualifying limit last year was 160.

Ray Lashan of Metacomb, runner-up to Burke in the last two years, finished eighth with 77 and 79. Rooks, his clubmate, each had 156s. Lashan, who has 75 in the morning, was in the running for medalist honors until he bumped into an eight on the 18th.

Realizing that the eight had cost him his chance of leading the field, Lashan, who played in the same threesome as Burke, merely coasted along thereafter. He was hitting his shots well.

Rooks, who won the title 13 years ago at this course, also played steady. He had rounds of 77 and 79, and he still is to be reckoned with in the morning. Another former champion, Harry Brewster of Metacomb, also qualified comfortably with 159. Kenworthy played fine golf in the morning, scoring a 70. Jim Coker played two unusual rounds. He was by far the longest driver in the field, ranging out many shots that approached the 300-yard mark. A number of wayward approaches nullified his excellent driving in the morning and he used up 80 strokes.

In the afternoon, however, when his tee shots were not clicking as on his first round, he came through with a number of good approaches and

### Pairings, Times in State Amateur

#### CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION

9:00—Burke vs. Ford.  
9:15—Wright vs. Cicciello.  
9:30—Held vs. Easton.  
9:45—Sherry vs. Barker.  
10:00—MacColl vs. Barry.  
10:15—Cicciello vs. Rooks.  
10:30—Carroll vs. E. Gammons.  
10:45—Brown vs. Edwards.  
11:00—MacColl vs. Harrington.  
11:15—Smith vs. Moore.  
11:30—Schoen vs. Roberts.  
11:45—Schoen vs. Gil.  
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# BURKE SETS PAGE WITH 143 SCORE

Continued from Page 8, Col. 2.

BY MICHAEL J. THOMAS

scored a 73, the second lowest in the afternoon.

Charlie Round of Metacomet was another who alternately played mediocre and good golf. Round had an 82 in the morning, but he was seven shots better on his second trip. He came to the ninth hole in the afternoon needing a par four for a 34, but he hit his second into the pond and took a six. He came home in 39.

• • •

One of the six players in the 167 group was Sam Neild of Pawtucket, who recently won the State junior title for the second straight year. Neild played far below his usual standard.

Three players who failed to qualify in the State Junior made the grade yesterday. They were Joe Sherry of Pawtucket and Pat Hayes of Wamumetonomy, who had 160s, and Billy Martin of Massasoit, who posted 163.

Burke's first round opponent will be Herman Ford of the home club, who qualified with 167. Burke's leading threat in the upper is Round. A number of the leading players, such as MacColl, Coker, Lenahan and Cawley, are in the lower bracket, and undoubtedly a keen battle will develop among them for a finalist berth.

Burke didn't have a six on his card. He had one birdie in the morning—at the ninth where he dropped a downhill 20 footer—and three in the afternoon. They came at the third, 12th and 13th holes. He dropped a five-footer for a deuce at the third, a 15-footer for another deuce at the 12th and nearly holed out his No. 8 iron shot at the 13th.

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His only putting lapses were at the 10th and 11th holes in the afternoon, where he took three putts on each green. Burke's score included a penalty shot on the 10th hole in the morning, where his ball moved out of position while he was addressing it.

Cawley had two birdies on each of his rounds. He had a deuce at the third in the morning, where he canned a 15-footer, and a birdie three at the 18th, where he sent home a winding 12-foot putt. His second round par beaters were at the seventh and the 13th, where he holed six-footers.

• • •

John A. "Daff" Gammons, president of the Rhode Island Golf Association and State champion in 1924, was among the spectators.

• • •

Forty-seven players started.

There were 12 players under 80 in the morning, and a similar number in the afternoon.

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Ira Mackenzie chipped in for a birdie three at the second hole in the morning. MacColl had birdies both times at this hole.

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There was a "Welcome" sign from the Wannamoisett members to greet the contestants at the entrance gate.

• • •

Marlin started his second nine in the morning with three threes, but then ran into a damaging seven.

# Burke, Carroll, Sherry Dazzle Opponents in R. I. Golf Tourney

## Titlist's Spectacular Shots Drop Ford and Cicerelle in First Two Rounds of Play; Carroll Upsets Edward in Grim 21-Hole Battle

By Michael J. Thomas

A 19-year-old youth, playing in his first major championship, and a seasoned campaigner from the home club, shared with Johnny Burke, defending titlist, the distinction of providing the highlights during the first two rounds of match play in the State amateur golf championship at Wannamoisett yesterday.

They were Joe Sherry, junior member of the Pawtucket Golf Club, who scored a pair of upset victories over his clubmate, Sam Neild, Jr., and Ralph Rooks of Metacomet, and Bill Carroll, who staged a gallant comeback to snatch victory from defeat in his 21-hole battle with C. H. "Skinny" Edward of Wanutonometry.

With the exception of long-driving Jim Coker of Metacomet, who lost to Donald Gill, another of Wanutonometry's three survivors, 4 and 3, in the second round, all of the other ranking players reached the round of eight. Carroll's victory over Edward, a finalist the last time the championship was played at Wannamoisett, was the chief upset of the day.

Continuing his spectacular golf, Burke scored a pair of 3 and 5 victories over Herman Ford of Wannamoisett and Louis Cicerelle, State

public links champion. Burke was two under even fours for the 26 holes he travelled to eliminate his two foes.

Burke's superb play yesterday further manifested his superiority over the field, and unless his sound game suddenly weakens, it appears that he is headed toward his third straight crown. Burke again split the fairways with sizzling drives and he continually banged approaches dead to the carpets, leaving hardly any openings for his adversaries.

His opponents faced a human golf machine, who hurled a barrage of pars and birdies at them. Burke now has played 62 holes in this championship in three under even fours, a remarkably fast competitive pace. His two victories yesterday ran his string of triumphs in this blue ribbon event of Rhode Island golf to 13 over a three-year period.

Ray Lenahan of Metacomet, runner-up to Burke the last two years, also had an easy time in reaching the quarter-finals. He had to play in but one match, as his first round foe, Arthur Winslow of Newport, defaulted. He eliminated Annaqua.

Continued on Page 8, Col. 1







# TITLIST DEFEATS JOE SHERRY AND CHARLEY ROUND

Finalists Youngest in 34 Years  
of Championship Play  
in State.

BY MICHAEL J. THOMAS

A fellow Newporter is all that stands between 19-year-old Johnny Burke and the accomplishment of a feat unparalleled in Rhode Island golf competition—that of winning State amateur championship three years in competition.

Twenty-year-old Donald Gill, competing in the tournament for the first time, represents the one remaining obstacle in Burke's path. They will meet for the title over the 36-hole route today, teeing off at 10 o'clock in the morning and 2 in the afternoon.

Burke and Gill are the youngest finalists in the 34-year history of this championship, and their match today will mark the first occurrence of an All-Newport final.

They survived two more rounds of match play in a day, which saw the downfall of such stalwarts as Ray Lenahan and Charley Round of Metacomet and Kenneth D. MacColl of Agawam Hunt. Both played remarkably fine golf to triumph.

Burke again displayed the magic touch that has been with him since the tournament started. He again waded through two opponents with ease, shooting practically unbeatable golf.

He eliminated Joe Sherry of Pawtucket, conqueror of Ralph Brooks and Sammy Neild, 9 and 7, in the quarter-finals, and he ousted Charley Round of Metacomet in the semi-finals 6 and 5. He was two under even fours for the 11 holes of his match with Sherry and two under for the 14 holes he played against Round.

Burke thus far has played 87 holes in this championship in eight under even fours. Never before has such a pace been set in the title event, and never before has one golfer so dominated the field. None of his four opponents have been able to carry him past the 13th.

He has played shots as though rifled from a catapult, so accurate have they been hit. The most significant part of Burke's play is the effortless manner in which he has manufactured pars and birdies. Outwardly, he doesn't appear burdened with any competitive strain, such as has made the play of other contestants a bit more difficult. He hits his shots and acts as though he was playing a practice round. He is one of a small group of golfers, who can appear nonchalant about their games and yet concentrate intently on the business of shot-making.

Today he will oppose a capable golfer, who may yet go far in this game, but who at this time has not the well-rounded game of Burke's command. Gill has played fine golf throughout this championship, and already, has accomplished quite a feat in gaining the final round on his first attempt.

Gill is a powerful youth of more than six feet, who hits the ball a tremendous distance. He has sent out many drives approaching 300 yards and he hits his irons in a firm, crisp manner. He also puts well. He lacks experience, however, but this tournament has helped him considerably along this line.

He made a few mistakes in judgment in his earlier matches, but they will prove profitable in the long run. During the later stages of his semi-final round match with Jim Cawley, his clubmate, he employed some fine strategy.

Gill, who possibly may give Burke a harder battle than is generally expected, won two hard-fought matches yesterday. He had to travel to the home hole to defeat MacColl, one up, while against Cawley, who had eliminated Lenahan in the quarter-finals, he was carried to the 17th to triumph, 2 and 1.

A par four at the 18th proved his winning margin against MacColl. The latter was three down after 13 holes, but he staged a comeback and evened the match at the 17th with a birdie four.

MacColl's drive at the 18th was low, catching the top part of the bunker that crosses the left part of the fairway, 175 yards ahead, and the ball bounced back into the sand. Gill's tee shot travelled nearly 275 yards. MacColl made a fine out from the bunker, and followed this with another well-hit approach. The ball, however, rolled by the pin 20 yards. Gill's second shot was 10 yards away.

MacColl made a determined effort to drop his winding putt, but he missed. He conceded the match to Gill, when the latter laid his approach stone dead.

Cawley, prior to meeting Gill, had waged a close duel with Lenahan, who lost out again in a bid to lift the title that has just missed his grasp during the past two years. Both Cawley and Lenahan, playing below their usual standards, were even at the turn. The Newporter, however, got the jump on the early holes of the second nine and led by two holes at the 18th.

Lenahan, hitting two powerful woods to the edge of the green, won the 17th with a birdie four, leaving Cawley dormie one. Again at the home hole Lenahan hit a mighty tee shot, but Cawley followed suit.

With Cawley's second shot on the green, Lenahan had to shoot for a birdie. His approach caught a trap and his one remaining hope was to hold out from the bunker. He came near to producing this shot, hit ball stopping but a foot from the hole. Cawley took two putts for victory.

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# BURKE TO MEET GILL IN FINAL

Continued from Page 6, Col. 1.

BY MICHAEL J. THOMAS

match came at the 16th, where Jim sliced his drive and got tangled up with some trees. He lost this hole and the 17th, Gill's margin of victory.

They were even at the turn, both with scores of 36. Cawley took the lead with a par four at the 11th, but Gill again squared the issue with a birdie deuce at the 12th, where he dropped a 12-footer. They halved the next three holes in pars.

Gill, who had sent his second shot to the top bank of the trap at the 16th, had to drop a six-footer there to win that hole, and become one up, for Cawley, after missing two shots in a row, dropped an eight-footer for a hard-earned five.

Holding the lead for the first time in the match, Gill sent out a 300-yard tee shot at the long 17th, while Cawley sliced into the rough. Cawley's second shot was well hit, but it caught a trap and Gill, apparently, playing for a safe five, sent a No. 3 iron sizzling to within 15 yards of the green.

Cawley caught another bunker on his third, his fourth went to the back edge of the green and he conceded defeat when Gill putted to within an inch of the cup on his fourth.

Their cards:

Gill, out	4 4 4 4 5 4 4 3 4—36
Cawley, out	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4—36
Gill, in	5 5 2 4 4 4 4 4
Cawley, in	5 4 4 4 4 4 5 6

Burke, out in 34, won all but the fifth and ninth holes in his match with Sherry to make the turn seven up. He ended the match, the most decisive of the tournament, at the 11th, with a par four.

He was out in 33 against Round, who defeated him at this course in the State junior final of 1934, and he led by six holes. Round won his only hole at the 10th, where Burke took three from the edge.

Burke won the first three holes with pars, made in regulation manner. Round was unable to place chips close enough on the first two and, at the short three, he sent his tee shot into a trap. The next two were halved in par fours, but Burke became four up at the sixth, when he had another par four. Round sliced his drive and again made a weak chip.

A birdie three at the seventh sent Burke five up. He also won the eighth with a three, Round catching the trap with his iron tee shot.

Round couldn't make further progress after winning the 10th. He managed to halve the 11th, but he hooked his tee shot at the 12th and lost his final chance of victory.

Their cards:

Out	
Burke	4 4 3 4 4 4 3 3 4—33
Round	5 5 4 4 4 5 4 4 4—39
In	
Burke	5 4 3 5
Round	4 4 4 5

John A. Gammons, Jr., of Warwick won the second division by defeating Everett Rupert of Metacomet in the final, 2 and 1.

The morning round of the championship battle will be refereed by A. H. Chatterton of Pawtucket, while W. D. Mann of Wannamoisett will officiate in the afternoon.

Yesterday's semi-final matches were refereed by C. H. "Skinny" Edwards and Dan Fairchild.

The summary:

## CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISION

Quarter-Final Round  
Johnny Burke, Wannamoisett, defeated Joe Sherry, Pawtucket, 9 and 7.  
Charles Round, Metacomet, defeated Bill Carroll, Wannamoisett, 4 and 3.  
Donald Gill, Wannamoisett, defeated K. D. MacColl, Agawam Hunt, one up.  
Jim Cawley, Wannamoisett, defeated Ray Lenahan, Metacomet, one up.

## Semi-Final Round

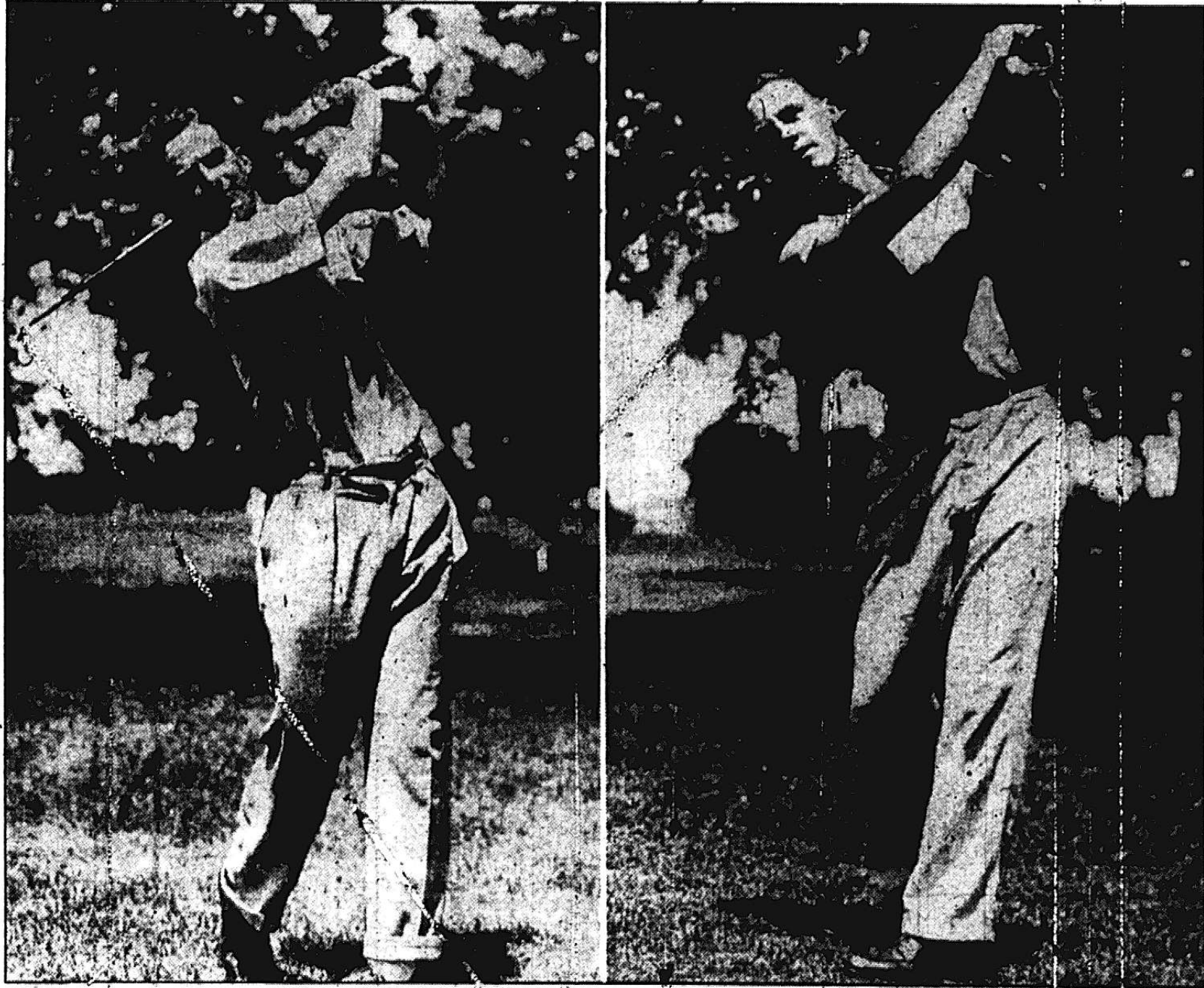
Burke defeated Round, 6 and 5.  
Gill defeated Cawley, 2 and 1.

## SECOND DIVISION

Semi-Final Round  
Everett Rupert, Metacomet, defeated A. Azione, Wannamoisett, 5 and 3.  
John Gammons, Jr., Warwick, defeated A. P. Lawton, Wannamoisett, 3 and 2.  
Final Round  
Gammons defeated Rupert, 2 and 1.



## Meet for State Amateur Title Today



**GIANTS, PIRATES**

Johnny Burke, left, of Wanumetonomy, defending champion, faces a fellow Newporter, Donald Gill, right, for the State amateur crown at Wannamoalet today.

**WHITE SOX TRIP**

# Johnny Burke Wins Golf Title For Third Year In Succession

## 19-Year-Old Newport Wizard Defeats Donald Gill, 2 and 1, at Wannamoisett for the Amateur Championship of State

By Michael J. Thomas

Johnny Burke, 19-year-old Newport golf wizard, made history at Wannamoisett yesterday. He defeated Donald Gill, his friend and clubmate, 2 and 1, in the 36-hole final of the State amateur championship to become the first to win the title three years in succession.

Burke achieved a feat that seldom has been equalled by a golfer in this country at his age. Players younger than he is have won State championships, but few have succeeded in scoring triples before of age. As proved appropriate, Burke completed his triple at the course where the championship first was held 34 years ago.

For the first time since he annexed the crown at Agawam Hunt in 1934, Burke had a battle on his hands yesterday. He waded through the field last year with ease, and until Gill crossed his path, none of the contestants in this championship were able to come anywhere near matching his superb play.

Gill, however, proved a real match for sharp-shooting Johnny, and after

he missed the winding, 20-foot putt that meant defeat at the 35th green, he was showered with praise for the plucky fight he made.

At no time in the match did Burke hold more than two-up advantage, and nearly every time that Johnny did manage to acquire this lead, Gill would become more determined and win the next hole to cut his adversary's margin to one hole.

But try as he might, Gill could not reach even terms after Burke had assumed a one-up advantage at the end of the first nine. Burke always had the shots to protect his lead. Johnny had many anxious moments during the final stages of the match, for it was not until the 33rd hole that Gill finally gave way.

Burke's game was not up to the standard he had set on the three previous days, but that was more or less to be expected. He was under more of a strain yesterday than during the preliminary rounds. He was opposed by a youth, who matched his

Continued on Page 6, Col. 1.



