

'Double-dip' back-marker squad comes storming through...

To win coveted semis place!

FEW would have given a sucked maggot for Maver MK's chances of making the AT league semis after they bottomed in both the first two Castle Ashby matches.

But, four rounds later, Sunday's nail-biting final leg saw them runners up overall – with a four point margin over the next team after fighting off three others to make the semis and a chance at the big final.

'Ashby series winners Kamasan Starlets slipped to fifth on the day, but had been so far ahead they would have taken the title even if they'd stayed away.

Mick Wheeler (Chiltern GotBaits) poled 68-1 from the brickyard to win, Sunday, as 'Ashby Youth's Gary Millward had 22 bream for 51-12 from Grendon, and Chiltern Royal Mail's Alan West 38-14 from Scotland.

Final league: Starlets 15, MK 19, GotBaits 23, RAF 24, 'Ashby A 25, 'Mail 28, 'Ashby Youth 30.

● MEADOWLANDS league: Wayne Sharman 69-10, Phil Hull 52-12, Steve Daly 51-4. Neal Russell leads into the final round – just.

● OSPREY, Lakeside: Keith Stent 27lb, Neil Sawyer 19-8, Rick Green 18-2.

● WHITE Hart Flore, Spring Pools: Terry Adams 20-8, Drew Adams 3-8, Glen Tilson 1-1.

● CASTLE Ashby: midweek, Grendon, Mick Wheeler 19-14, Phil Wintle 18-4, Keith Bishop 14-12; Saturday, Grendon, Chris Garratt 18-12, Keith Garratt 14-14, Dick Rogers 12-12.



■ **HARDLY** spring-day dry fly on a chalk stream, but Marc Bull was elated with this rare Upper Ouse 2lb wild brownie on maggot feeder

● DAVENTRY, Dog Lane: Graham Cheney 14-8, Kevin Ross and Martin Paynter both 7-4. 'Rich' Wills has the annual points sown up with one match to go.

● NORTHANTS' vets, Canons: Dave Smart 8-12, Bob Spencer 6-6, John Lewis 6-5.

● CASTLE & Irthlingborough Christmas match and silverfish league final, Canons: Jeff Rice 8-6, Pete Haughton 8-1, Andy Webster 6-12. Nick Antonacci – tied with Rice on league points – won on weight.

● NENE, long pound cut: Chris Howard 7-1, John Balhatchett 5-4, Dave Gibwin 2-7.

● TOWCESTER, Tove: Mick Goodridge 5-10, Grenville Read 5lb, Andy Jones 4-4.

● FLORE & Brockhall Christmas match, Brockhall bridge cut: Rob 'no mates' Rawlins, 3-3, fluked the pools, the turkey... and the golden peg – the latter for the second time in a row – and wonders why the others aren't talking to him! Paul Humphries, 1-2-2, Steve Smith 1lb.

● TOWCESTER vets, midweek Navvi cut: John Balhatchett 2lb, Gerald Green 1-4, Mick Reed 0-14.

● COTTON Club, Christmas match, Watford village cut: Dave Haddon 1-12, Rus Lay 0-15, Roy Hickey 0-6.



■ Pictured (by Grabowski) is a 1 centimetre long 'demon shrimp' – note the orange-red feelers. The species hit the Chron headlines (November 29) after being found in the cut at Stoke Bruerne and Blisworth.

The Eastern European invader thrives on fish eggs, fish fry and their food. The best way to help impede its spread to all our waters is to check, clean and thoroughly DRY your nets between trips.

For more about it visit <https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/nonnative-species/news/index.cfm?id=97>