

'Ashby AT league too close to call, until...

# RAF swoop to conquer!

**MISSION accomplished! RAF are flying high – without a 'plane – having soared to their first-ever Castle Ashby winter league title.**

And the Garbolino-sponsored flyboys are probably still doing victory rolls, having topped one of the tightest series in years.

Going into Sunday's final leg they had been neck and neck with Black Horse with Royal Mail, just one point behind, pushing hard and always a contender for top spot.

But on the day RAF put in a champion's performance to finish five section points clear of 'Horse, while 'Mail came in three points further back, joint-third with Browning on the day.

And that put RAF one all-important point clear of fellow Angling Trust series-qualifiers 'Horse at the top of the table – with all the others left squabbling to be best-of-the-rest.

At the other end of the scale Maver MK finished fourth overall – their worst-ever result in the league – and 'Ashby A Team came in last.

'Ashby Youth's Richard King had top weight on the day with 44-12 from the Brickyard. Browning's Mark Davis was next up with 38-2 from Grendon followed by A Team's Phil Bardell (32-8 from Scotland Pond).

**League:** RAF 13, 'Horse 14, Northampton Royal Mail 16, MK 21, 'Ashby Youth and Browning both on 33, 'Ashby A Team 39.

Browning having had a man disqualified in the previous round for exceeding the net limit didn't make any difference to the overall placings.

● SUNDAY's Ringer Baits pairs on Boddington saw Dale Humphries and Jason Macky beat Phil and Steve Ringer

to top spot. Both pairs tied on points, but the Ringers lost out on weight by 112lb to 97lb.

● DESPITE missing the frame in the final leg Wayne Sharman won this year's Meadowlands individual winter league – five points clear of Carl Mullen. Dave Lightowllers topped the last round with 57-4

ahead of Glen Maxwell 54lb and Richard Watts 50-4.

● DNA Baits 24 hour 'social' on Drayton's dam saw 13 anglers catch over 200 zig-rig carp, best 21lb.

● STANWICK produced several 20s this week with Dan Hyde getting two from Mallard.

● THE road to Towcester's Astwell Mill has been re-opened.

● WHITE Hart Flore, Canons: Trevor Griffiths 65-13, Dave Chapman 33-3, Gary Muddiman 32-9.

● 'ASHBY opens: Wed, Brickyard, Mick Hewlett 40-12, Keith Bishop 28-4, Chris Garrett 19-4; Sat, Brickyard, Mark Moody 39-8, Frank Pizamenti 36-8, Hewlett 31-8.

● ABINGTON, park lake: Dave Huth 16-4, Richard Hawkes 13-10, Malc Bunyard 10-9.

● FLORE & Brockhall, Christmas match, Dog Lane: Fred Johnson 15-

4, Paul Humphries 11-2, Dave Ayres 9-9.

● COUNTY Vets, Canons: Bob Spencer 13-4, Jeff Lewis 9-9, Allan West 8-14.

● OLNEY, Ouse, midweek: Pete Hawley 9-5, Neil Shearn 8-3, Andy Webster and Ian Halliwell both 7-14.

● TOWCESTER, Tove: Chris Howard 4-4. Tosh Saunders 3-4, John Balhatchett 3-3 ■



■ RICHARD King – top rod in 'Ashby winter league final round