

River roach were queuing up for DATS lads' bread punch!

WHILE so many others struggled – Sunday – it was roach, roach and MORE roach for DATS' lads on the 'Bully' at Newport.

With a full moon and frost followed by bone-chilling east winds, prospects looked far from good on the exposed river bank.

But, as happens some years, the roach had shoaled up thick and tight – and were just waiting for food...and in the clear water Paul Chapman got his bread-punch presentation just right to bag 32lb of redfins!

Bob Gale was a long way adrift with 19-10 – a catch which any other day would have been a cracker – followed by Mark Haynes who included a 3-8 chub in his 15-10...while unlucky Dave Tysoe lost a roach, estimated as at least 2lb, at the net.

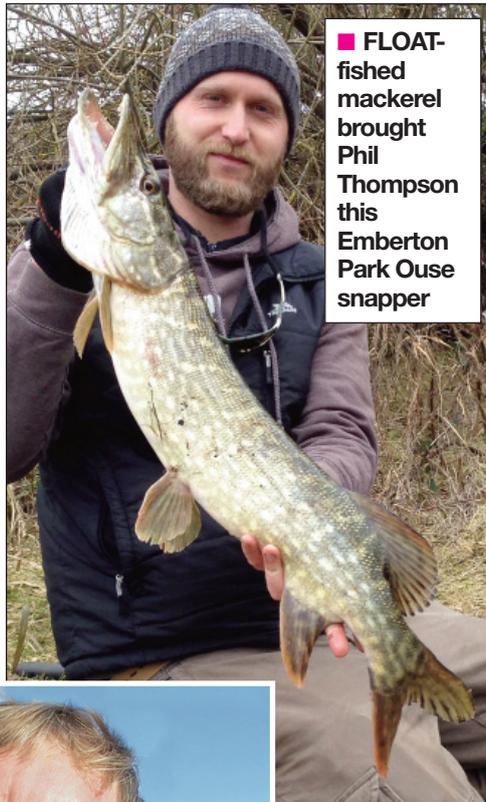
■ MILTON Keynes surged to the top – their fifth top-two placing in five rounds – in the Meadowlands teams-of-three and, with just one leg to go look all set to carry off the series.

MK's Phil Wintle was runner-up with 84lb of carp, leading his team to a seven penalty point total, nine points clear of the next side. MK lead overall with 65 points, well clear of Snowy's and Lowdowns – both on 92.

■ CHUBBING has been hard on the Ouse of late...but Gilders Tackle's Pete Dixon had it sussed, midweek.

He took pal Mark Shrimpton 'somewhere between MK and Bedford' where his tackle-rep guest bagged a 7-2 on some old 'bottom-of-the-bag' boilies – and then Dan went back next day to land three between 5-5 and 6-11.

■ TACKLING up opposite the New Inn – a piece of cut I'd never got round to fishing before – I found my sunshine blotted out by a local who insisted on telling I was wasting my time, that it was a dead stretch and 'they' even leave it out of matches.



■ FLOAT-fished mackerel brought Phil Thompson this Emberton Park Ouse snapper

Too idle to move I persisted, had two to three pounds of silvers in two hours and, last cast with a tiny cube of crust, my best canal roach for ages at 1-4.

Don't you just love it when you manage to prove a Jonah wrong...

■ WILLARDS' Dave Duwell and Phil Thompson (left) shared a cluster of near-doubles pike on deads from Emberton Park boating lake and adjacent river, Sunday.

■ MK VETS, Alders Farm: Ernie Sattler 85-4, Steve Dzialak 58-6, John Robinson 48-5.

■ OLNEY, Ouse (raised £80 for Willen Hospice): Barry Glidewell 4-4, Jim Martin 3-1, Paul Caton 2-15.

■ NENE/Towcester, Flore canal: Mick Goodridge 2-13, Dave Martin 2-11, Bob Eales and Les Ramsden both 1-11.

■ CALVERT, Ouse in Buckingham: John Weatherall 2-9, Austin Maddock 2-8, Dave Lewis 1-7.

■ FIXTURES: Sat March 12, MKAA Grand Slam, Stony Ouse, 07970 047506; Coming up, MKAA spring league teams of four, 01234 713144.



■ ME with 1-4 canal roach from the New Inn