

Steve Ringer – and England – come...

So close to top of the world!

SO near yet so far...that was England – Sand town's Steve and Phil Ringer – in the world feeder championships!

Two points clear with four wins from five sections after day-one, England had looked favourites going into day-two of their Serbian adventure.

But the Germans had other ideas – putting in a blistering performance to leaving other 27 teams trailing – scooping gold as Preston Innovations-backed England ended-up best-of-the-rest with the silver.

And Steve had to settle for silver in the individual stakes, too, as having won his section BOTH days he was beaten on weight by one of the all-conquering Germans. Phil had won his day-one section.

With the match on a canalised 'spur' (up to 280 metres wide) off the Danube, target fish had been palm-sized skimmers and tiny American catfish averaging just one-and-a-half ounces. Steve had 130 of the latter in his first-day 5.540 kilo!

But silver is good, and if England do anything like as well in the Euro footie...

● OPENING day on local rivers was a wash-out for most, but Oundle's Sunday match on the Ashton Nene saw bream to 5lb and good tench caught on tip as Jan Cebbulla caught 23-15 and Dave Mabbutt 22-11. Mark Cunnington had 7-9.

GILDERS' Dan Todd managed chub to 4lb on a well-flooded River Trent.

● DIRTY floodwater put Towcester's Astwell Mill tench off when it re-opened on the 16th – but that didn't stop Mike Sando catching a 2lb roach, albeit perhaps one with a hint of rudd in it. Nice fish though.

● STANWICK's bigger carp are still on the chomp. Best-of-week was Dan Fudacz's



■ MIKE Sando displays his opening day Astwell Mill 2lb roach

30. Carpin Capers' man Sam Ribano had a 25.

● MILL Lane, Decoy: Guy Dickinson 139-6, Mark Whaddams 90-10, Alan Froggatt 79-2.

● CASTLE Ashby: Sat., Brickyard, Courtney Hewlett 88-4,

Frank Pizamenti 77lb, Darren Diver 36-12; Sun., Grendon, Steve Shakespeare 41-12, John Kent 41-10, Pete Lovell 41-2.

● CASTLE, Canons: Bob Spencer 79-12, Jeff Rice 79-4, Len Keech 55-12.

● ROYAL Oak, Packington: Carl Barnfield 78-12, Kelvin Mills 74-10, Charlie Merritt 63-4.

● WHITE Hart Flore, Bishops Bowl: Mick Wheeler 78-3, Dave Walker 69-5, Keith Bishop 55-13.

● COUNTY Vets midweek, Canons: John Balhatchett 41lb, Alan West 34-12, Dave Cantrell 32-8.

● SPORTS & Social, Willow Creek Nene: Graham Rogers and Dave Chamberlain both 16-14, Ken Taylor 10-6.

● FLORE & Brockhall, Barby Marshes: Jim Tanser 25lb, Dave Ayres 17lb, Rob Rawlins 12lb.

● WELLINGBOROUGH, Willow Brook: Bill Underwood 14-12, Paul Brand 12-10, Andy Webster 10-2.

● SYWELL Reservoir will host a memorial service this weekend for Northampton man Dave Watson, who passed away last week and was The Tenchfishers' local regional organiser ■



■ Carpin Capers' staffer Sam Ribano with Stanwick 25