



Filan is the Us' amber nectar

AUSTRALIAN keeper **John Filan** has been attracting plenty of admirers from top clubs since joining from Sydney Budapest at the end of last season.

The 23-year-old, who played for the last Australian Olympic side, has firmly installed himself as United's first choice between the sticks.

Protecting the right flank is 21-year-old **Andy Jeffrey** who was snapped up from non-League neighbours City last July. Left back **Dean Barrick**'s forays up the left touchline have excited fans. He joined from Rotherham during the summer.

At the heart of defence is former Portsmouth and Barnet player **Liam Daish**. Injury problems have prevented the 25-year-old from winning a permanent place in the Republic of Ireland squad. Alongside him is 30-year-old **Danny O'Shea**, who is also club coach.

Midfield is the only department where competition is verging on fierce after the arrival of 24-year-old **Simon Livett** from Leyton Orient. But 19-year-old **John Fowler**, who made his League debut last season, and winger **Gary Rowett** have also figured large.

Top-scorer **Steve Claridge** has decided that the Abbey Stadium is his spiritual home in his second stint at the club after a spell at Luton.

Mick Heathcote, more at home in central defence, is thriving up front with Claridge. He scored the winner against Reading.

Lively winger **Kofi Nyamah** is certainly one to watch. The 18-year-old is rapidly making a name for himself after turning professional in the summer.

Book is tribute to rich history

BOOK REVIEW
England: The Complete Post-War Record
By Mike Payne

THE post-war greats of English football come alive in this exhaustive account of 470 international matches.

Action and team pictures sit happily with the staggering detail and concise match reports describing England's full internationals since 1946.

My favourite pictures are of Bobby Charlton's 100 caps and Gordon Banks' amazing save from Pele.

But there are not enough pictures of England's current players — particularly from the World Cup semi final against West Germany in Italy.

Perhaps a splash of colour would have enlivened the grey interior of a hugely-readable book.

The book faithfully records England's fortunes in all competitions.

Perhaps dividing it into sections for each competition would have made it a neater package.

England: The Complete Post-War Record is published by Breedon Books and is priced at £16.95.

Nick Goodman

Wanderers keep away fires burning

WYCOMBE boast the only unbeaten League away record in professional football.

Wanderers, impressive 3-2 winners at Division Three leaders Preston on Saturday, had shared that unbeaten honour with Premiership Aston Villa on Sunday morning.

But later in the day, Villa lost 2-1

at Liverpool and Blues now stand proudly alone with their away record.

Two goals from Tim Langford set Wycombe on their way to victory at Preston. But it took Hakan Hayrettin's 40-yard injury-time effort to clinch the three points.

The game had appeared to be heading for a certain draw before

Hayrettin's cameo of magic.

Wycombe are now only four points behind Preston, whose four-point lead over Crewe before Saturday was sliced to one.

Blues' next League game is at Chester City, who dropped from third to fifth after losing to Crewe on Saturday.