

TT No. 110: Steve Hardy - Saturday 2nd March 2019; **Milton Keynes Dons U18** v Leyton Orient U18; Football league Youth Alliance Merit League 2; Result: 5-2; Kick-Off: 10.30am; Result: 5-2; Admission: Free; Programme: No; Attendance 36 h/c

Milton Keynes was the destination for yesterday's double, much to the annoyance of Sarah my *satnav* girl. She was fed up as it meant another 85-mile trip solely on the A5, with nothing for her to do except 'stay on the A5 for 85-miles...'.

First off, it was the U18's of MK Dons, who play at The Pavilion in Woughton on the Green. The Pavilion is actually a Chinese Pagoda, although I suspect it probably isn't the real thing imported from Imperial China to live out it's days in MK.

The match itself turned out to be an absolute belter. In a nutshell, on 83 minutes Orient were cruising at 2-0 up, and were attempting to just play the game out. The ref then awarded the Dons a debateable penalty, which they scored and then all hell broke loose as Dons scored 4 more goals in the last 6 minutes for an unlikely 5-2 win.

Spectator access is easy, but we were only allowed to watch from the far side of the pitch, which made taking photos a rather limiting business. I saw people coming back from the pagoda clutching tea and coffee cups at half-time, so I am guessing there may have been a vending machine of some sort in there. I spent my half-time watching a group of red kites flying over the ground, probably trying to work out which of the players looked the weakest for their lunch.