

Date: 16 March 2013

Opposition: Southampton

Competition: League

Echo	Sunday Times	Sun Telegraph	Independent	16 March 2013
BBC	Observer	Times	Telegraph	
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THE TIMES

Liverpool again fall prey to their inconsistency
Southampton 3 Schneiderlin 6, Lambert 33, Rodriguez 80
Liverpool 1 Coutinho 45

Referee P Dowd Attendance 32,070

Fancy having a go at the Liverpool Polka? It is tricky; a bit of a free-for-all. Two steps forward, one step back and then, suddenly, it is one step forward, two steps back. There is always at least one step back, though, just to keep you inside the barn. Just to keep the verdict on Brendan Rodgers's tenure open to interpretation. This defeat felt like a massive leap backwards. All the talk had been of how Liverpool were closing in on a top-four finish. Emphatic wins over Swansea City and Wigan Athletic and a fightback against Tottenham Hotspur hinted at a team finding their groove. Their groggy and disjointed performance at St Mary's placed those victories in perspective.

Swansea had their minds on Wembley, Wigan do not always turn up and Tottenham, having dominated, made a couple of crass errors.

"We're a team that is not quite on that level yet," Rodgers said. But what does that actually mean? The Liverpool manager explained that he did not mean that his team lack the ability to fight back from a losing position but that "we're not quite at the level when you make the bad start that we made against a good side, so early on, it's very difficult." In other words, Rodgers does not believe that his side have what it takes to recover when they begin sourly against a bright and bouncy team. This is a worrying analysis. It paints a picture of a team out of their depth, learning the ropes, capable of succumbing to insecurity -- which are not terms readily associated with a club with such a rich and admirable history.

This was Liverpool at their worst. Anyone who wondered what might be wrong at Anfield need only have turned up on the South Coast.

Every flaw was exhibited. It felt like the moment Dorian Gray stands before his portrait with his worst traits cruelly exposed.

Steven Gerrard cannot be expected to pull on his Superman outfit for every game.

The England captain has played every minute of every Barclays Premier League match this season and is entitled perhaps to put in a relatively lacklustre shift every now and again. But when he does, Rodgers seemingly has no idea how to compensate for it.

Gerrard played along side Joe Allen in the first half and the former Swansea player was so peripheral that the Liverpool captain was stretched out of position. It was unpleasant viewing. The lack of chemistry between Allen and Gerrard was grating, like having to listen to a couple sat opposite you on the train split up. Gerrard was clearly relieved when Lucas Leiva replaced Allen at half-time. The Brazil midfielder is disciplined and his arrival briefly perked up the attitude of all his team-mates.

There was something horribly wrong with Liverpool's defence, despite it holding more promise than most in the league. A back line of Glen Johnson, Daniel Agger, Martin Skrtel and Jose Enrique ought to be solid and inventive, and indeed has been in the past, but Skrtel's confidence has been shattered to the extent that his jitters are contagious. This leaves Liverpool in the peculiar position of badly missing a player widely regarded as well past his prime a year ago.

Jamie Carragher did not quite recover from a gashed shin in time to feature on Saturday and he probably felt embarrassed that his side mourned him so palpably. Luis Suarez, strangely, did not even frighten Southampton and although Philippe Coutinho scored just before half-time, the Brazilian's overall decision-making was poor. The travelling fans were also given an all too startling illustration of why Chelsea found Daniel Sturridge a frustrating player as little he attempted was properly executed.

Rodgers has the international break to ponder how the worst of his Liverpool team came to the fore. "We just have to go away now, lick our wounds and sit on it for a couple of weeks," he said. "Today we let those standards slip a wee bit, so we just need to get back now and refocus on that and I'm sure we'll see a different side against Aston Villa."

One step forward again -- but it ought to be time for Rodgers to take impressive strides in the right direction.

RATINGS

Southampton (4-4-2): A Boruc 6 -- N Clyne 5, M Yoshida 6, J Hoolveld 5 (sub: J Fonte, 31min 5), L Shaw 5 -- A Lallana 6 (sub: Guly Do Prado, 84), J Cork 6, M Schneiderlin 6, G Ramirez 6 (sub: S Davis, 55 6) -- J Rodriguez 7, R Lambert 7.

Substitutes not used: K Davis, V Forren, J Ward-Prowse, J Puncheon.

Liverpool (4-4-1-1): B Jones 6, -- G Johnson 5, M Skrtel 4, D Agger 4, J Enrique 4 -- S Downing 4, S Gerrard 5, J Allen 3 (sub: Lucas Leiva, 46 5), P Coutinho 5 -- L Suarez 5 -- D Sturridge 5 (sub: Henderson, 83).

Substitutes not used: P Gulasci, A Wisdom, J Shelvey, J Ibe, Suso.

Booked: Suarez.

Latin passion of Pochettino brings success

"If we played better than we played today, we would probably be in the quarter-finals of the Champions League," Mauricio Pochettino, the Southampton manager, said. It was an entirely understandable sentiment.

Their victory against Liverpool was underpinned by a sumptuousness rarely seen among teams fighting against relegation. Pochettino arrived at Southampton in difficult circumstances. Nigel Adkins's sacking in January was viewed as harsh, unfair and unnecessary. How could this little-known Argentinian fare any better? But although points were thin on the ground, the fans sensed that there was potential.

The manner in which Southampton took to the pitch against Liverpool underlined the wonders of Pochettino's man-management. They had been on a run of two defeats, to Newcastle United and Queens Park Rangers, and a draw with Norwich City yet they were visibly bursting with self-confidence. Their first goal came early, in the sixth minute, but it felt like the product of a sustained wave of optimism. Do not assume, though, that the former Espanyol manager is naively indulgent. Having dominated to take a 2-0 lead, the first half ended with Liverpool clawing back a goal -- and Pochettino was furious.

"I was really angry when I went into the dressing room at half-time," he said. "It changed what I said to my players. We are an attack-minded team and always want to push forward, and it's not such a big deal if we concede a goal when we are pressing really high to get a goal for ourselves as well.

"But to concede a goal when there are ten of my players in my own area, in my own box, and concede a goal like that, I can never tolerate that." Perhaps what the South Coast needed all along was a touch of Latin passion. Pochettino said that he becomes angry a lot and laughed at the impression he has created of a calm and detached sort of bloke. "I've kept up appearances quite well," he said.

Behind the scenes he is furiously pedalling away to keep his players buoyant. "Our work is based on the mental, physical and tactical preparation and we have a lot to do in terms of pushing those boundaries and learning even more how to prepare in those three aspects," he said.

"We have the obligation to treat my players not as footballers but first and foremost as people. First of all, individually they need to be in the right state of mind so, as a collective, they can act in the right state of mind and play together as a team."

Little wonder then that Jay Rodriguez, who single-handedly took on the Liverpool back line to score his side's third goal, accepted that the dismissal of Adkins was the right course of action after all. "Everyone is buzzing, everyone is really happy," Rodriguez said.

Liverpool, it seems, were beaten by a team with an exceptionally sunny disposition. Chelsea are next in line for the Pochettino treatment at St Mary's. Quite how Rafael Benitez factors that into his calculations will be fascinating.

the guardian

Rodgers admits to holy mess as Saints move closer to salvation

Brendan Rodgers will need to visit the stationery cupboard. In scenes from a now infamous fly-on-the-wall documentary, the Liverpool manager brandished three envelopes which he claimed held the names of the trio of players who were going to let down his team this season. After this abject performance against Southampton, he'll need several more. Brad Jones, in for the injured Pepe Reina, Luis Suarez and Lucas Leiva, a half-time replacement for Joe Allen, were the only players not to make a holy show of themselves at the end of a week in which a new pope was elected and the Saints took a massive step towards securing their place in the Premier League canon.

Rodgers seemed surprisingly unperturbed, putting the defeat down to a communal bad day at the office. But he admitted the result was a wake-up call. "It's a reminder more to me than anyone," he said. "This is a group, when we lose, we lose together. We're very much a group and the spirit's strong. It's just one of those days when the team wasn't quite right and that's just one of those things we'll live with and put right before the next game."

Much credit is due to Southampton, who were as excellent as Liverpool were abject and should realistically have been six or seven up by half time. Morgan Schneiderlin opened the scoring after six minutes, deftly flicking home from seven yards after Jay Rodriguez had nodded down a floated cross from Gaston Ramirez. Saints doubled their lead through Liverpool fan Rickie Lambert, whose free-kick from 25 yards deflected home off the backside turned its way by Daniel Sturridge. Liverpool grabbed an unlikely lifeline in first-half injury time through Philippe Coutinho, who stabbed home after Sturridge's attempt to atone for his cowardice had been blocked. It was the 18th goal Southampton have conceded between the half-hour mark and interval this season and their manager, Mauricio Pochettino, was furious.

"I was really angry when I went into the dressing room at half time," he said through his interpreter, the likeable Argentinian still not confident enough in his English to address the press pack directly. "It changed what I said to my players. We are an attack-minded team and always want to push forward and it's not such a big deal if we concede a goal when we are pressing really high to get a goal for ourselves as well. But to concede a goal when there are 10 of my players in my own area, in my own box, and concede a goal like that, I can never tolerate that." Asked if this was the first time he had been so angry with his players, he admitted "there have been other occasions".

In the face of a much improved second-half performance from Liverpool during which the Southampton goalkeeper, Artur Boruc, rescued his side on a number of occasions, the outstanding Jay Rodriguez put the result beyond doubt in the 80th minute. Picking up the ball on the halfway line, he ran directly at and straight through a back-peddalling Liverpool defence before firing low and straight at Jones, then slotting home the follow-up. A record crowd of 32,070 Saints fans were in heaven.

Man of the match Jay Rodriguez (Southampton)

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The Daily Telegraph

Pochettino silences critics as he gives players belief

Southampton 3

Schneiderlin 6, Lambert 33, Rodriguez 80

Liverpool 1

Coutinho 45 Att: 32,070

Mauricio Pochettino has steered Southampton to just two victories in his eight-match reign on the south coast but a pair of majestic 3-1 triumphs, over champions Manchester City and, on Saturday, at the expense of in-

form Liverpool, have silenced the Argentine's doubters.

They are not crying for former manager Nigel Adkins any more on the Solent. Not after this compelling display that ran the Champions League pretenders ragged. Liverpool arrived with talk of challenging for a top-four place quietly building.

They left absorbing a salutary lesson handed out by a hardworking, attack-minded home side.

England manager Roy Hodgson was in the St Mary's crowd checking on his Liverpool contingent ahead of the forthcoming World Cup qualifiers but he would have surely noted the committed performances of lesserheralded names such as Jay Rodriguez, Rickie Lambert and Nathaniel Clyne.

Liverpool had beaten their previous three league opponents but found Southampton a different proposition. The hosts' expansive, high-energy pressing game kept them pinned back with Steven Gerrard rarely able to move forward to shape the attack. Pochettino's plan worked perfectly.

"If we played better than we did here we would probably be in the quarter-final of the Champions League," Pochettino said. "It goes to show football is based on your mental attitude. We have the right mentality and we just have to make sure that in every game we have the same hunger."

Rodriguez, who laid on the opening goal for Morgan Schneiderlin before crowning Southampton's afternoon with a superb solo effort, provided an accolade for the manager.

"He's had a massive effect on us. The belief we've got is fantastic," Rodriguez said. "We don't give anyone respect."

Yet Southampton endangered all their good work. After opening up a two-goal lead from Lambert's deflected free-kick, they allowed Liverpool's Phillippe Coutinho to hit back seconds before half-time.

Pochettino said: "I was really angry when I went into the dressing room at half-time. It changed what I said to my players."

Southampton, however, had the strength of character to resist a marginally more positive Liverpool after the break.

"If you can beat Tottenham at home you should come here and win if you want to be in the top four," said Liverpoolwinger Stewart Downing.

Indeed, this was a reminder for Liverpool that though they have progressed well under Brendan Rodgers, harder parts of the long journey back remain.

"There's no doubt the start we had gave us a real uphill task. When we went 2-0 down so early it's very difficult and though we came back to 2-1 there was a feeling that we weren't quite on it," Rodgers said.

"We are a team that's not quite on that level yet. We need to be right on it in every game but we suffered. We let our standards slip a bit. Today was just one of those days. Everyone has them."

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THE INDEPENDENT

Liverpool to get reality check after standards slip

If anyone at or around Anfield was getting too excited about four successive victories and the outside chance of a top-four finish, Saturday's defeat at Southampton was a blast of cold reality. Brendan Rodgers, the manager, saw it as a useful reminder that rebuilding a team is not an overnight job, and while he will not be going back to the drawing board, he recognises that plenty of work remains to be done.

Unfortunately, that will have to wait while all but seven of his squad disappear on the international break, but he hopes they can use some of the time to assess the step back taken at St Mary's after what had appeared to be several steps forward.

"Maybe you've just got to go away and reflect on the last few weeks," he said. "Because it's important for us to maintain the efforts that we have been putting in that have got us results. We let those standards slip a wee bit so we just need to get back now and refocus on that and I'm sure we'll see a different side against Villa."

He will be especially concerned that they do not repeat the slow start on Saturday that allowed Southampton to take a 2-0 lead that they were unable to recover. It takes time, he suggested, to build that resilience into a refashioned side. "We're a team that is not quite on that level yet," he said. "We need to be right on it every game to get results and unfortunately today we suffered."

However, Rodgers argued that the result should be seen in the wider context of general improvement. "We had it last week against Tottenham when we went 2-1 behind [and won 3-2]. Especially in the second half of the season there's been a real upturn in terms of performance level. The players have been outstanding. This was just one of those days. Every team has them. We just didn't perform anywhere near what we have been. And, having said that, we could have scored three or four goals. So we just have to go away now, lick our wounds, and sit on it for a couple of weeks and get back to winning ways."

The influence of the injured Jamie Carragher was badly missed at the back, while Luis Suarez, mesmerising recently, was starved of service. But as Rodgers said, they still made chances and Mauricio Pochettino's high-pressing Southampton side, although dynamic going forward, still found the straightforward ball over the top difficult to defend.

It is also a concern for the Argentinian that Saints raised their game to beat Manchester City and Liverpool but lost to QPR and Newcastle. It is one he will address. "It just goes to show that football is based on your mental attitude in every single game you play," he said.

"We have to make sure that in every single game we play, not just these two games, that we have the same hunger and mentality to always go out for the win."

SOUTHAMPTON 3

LIVERPOOL 1

Goals: Southampton Schneiderlin 6, Lambert 33, Rodriguez 80. Liverpool Coutinho 45+1.

Substitutions: Southampton Fonte 5 (Hooiveld, 32), Davis (Ramirez, 55), Guly (Lallana, 84). Liverpool Lucas (Allen, HT), Henderson (Sturridge, 84).

Bookings: Liverpool Suarez.

Man of the match Rodriguez.

Match rating 8/10.

Possession: Southampton 48%. Liverpool 52%.

Attempts on target: Southampton 11. Liverpool 5.

Referee P Dowd (Staffordshire).

Attendance 32,070.

DAILY MIRROR

THE HAND OF GOOD; Saints boss caps Argentina's week

SOTON 3 LIVERPOOL 1

AFTER Pope Francis and Lionel Messi, Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino capped a divine week for Argentines in the Old World.

And Jay Rodriguez revealed his manager, who was also surprisingly anointed this year, has given his players the belief to beat anyone.

Pochettino (above) has won only two matches since Southampton's harsh decision to sack Nigel Adkins in January.

But now four points clear of the drop with this convincing win over Liverpool, the cold logic of the change is close to being justified by the Latin flair and passion he has brought to St Mary's.

"If we play better than we played today, we would probably be in the quarter-final of the Champions League," smiled Pochettino.

And Rodriguez, who scored the third goal in his best display for the Saints, said the Pochettino gamble has worked.

"You can see by the way we've played he's had a massive effect on us," said the PS6million summer signing from Burnley.

"The belief we've got is fantastic and we're just going to carry on. Since he has come in, we press high, we don't give anyone respect. We're more than good enough to beat any team. Everyone in the squad knows how to play and it's a great feeling.

"We feel we shouldn't be where we are. We want to be higher. But I think we're in a position now to carry on trying to pick up points and stay safe."

After dispatching Manchester City in Pochettino's first win, the Saints were unstoppable against a lacklustre Liverpool.

The first half was as one-sided as a Falklands referendum. Morgan Schneiderlin scored early and Rickie Lambert overtook Wayne Rooney to become the top-scoring Englishman in the top flight with his deflected free-kick watched by Roy Hodgson in the crowd.

Only Brad Jones and wayward finishing stopped Saints scoring more and then Philippe Coutinho nicked one back in first-half injury time. Former defender Pochettino was not impressed.

"I was really angry when I went into the dressing room at half-time," he said.

"It changed what I said to my players. We are an attack-minded team and always want to push forward and it's not such a big deal if we concede a goal when we are pressing really high to get a goal.

But to concede a goal when there are 10 of my players in my own box, and concede a goal like that I can never tolerate that. That is my job and that's what we still need to improve."

Was it the first time he had been angry at the club? Speaking via his interpreter, Pochettino responded: "There have been other occasions. Do you see me as calm and controlled? Thank you. Because I don't really see myself that way.

"I've kept up appearances quite well."

The rant worked as Southampton tightened up and Rodriguez ran through the Reds defence to seal victory in the 80th minute.

SOTON RUN-IN

Mar 31: Chelsea (h)

Apr 6: Reading (a)

Apr 13: West Ham (h)

Apr 20: Swansea (a)

Apr 27: West Brom (h)

May 4: Tottenham (a)

May 12: Sunderland (a)

May 19: Stoke (h)

LIVERPOOL RUN-IN

Mar 31: Aston Villa (a)

Apr 7: West Ham (h)

Apr 13: Reading (a)

Apr 21: Chelsea (h)

Apr 27: Newcastle (a)

May 4: Everton (h)

May 12: Fulham (a)

May 19: QPR (h)

STATS CLOSE!

SOUTHAMPTON: Boruc 8, Clyne 8, Yoshida 7, Hooiveld 6 (Fonte 32, 6), Shaw 7, Schneiderlin 7, Cork 7, Ramirez 7 (Davis 55, 6) Rodriguez 8, Lallana 8 (Guly 84), Lambert 7. Goals: Schneiderlin 6, Lambert 33, Rodriguez 80

LIVERPOOL: Jones 8, Johnson 6, Agger 6, Skrtel 6, Jose Enrique 7, Gerrard 6, Allen 5 (Lucas 46, 7), Downing 6, Suarez 6, Coutinho 7, Sturridge 6 (Henderson 84).

Goal: Coutinho 45 REF: Phil Dowd ATT: 32,070

MAn of the MAtCh BALL possession 52% 48% shots on tArget 5 11 shots off tArget

2 5 JAY rodrIGueZ Ran the Liverpoolrearguard ragged southAMpton

v liverpool Corners 5 7 offside 6 0 fouls 10 12 CARDS 1 0 0 0

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Champions League hopes washed away in LFC horror show
 IT'S the hope that kills you.
 Just when it appeared that Liverpool's revival was gathering pace, momentum was carelessly squandered.
 So much for their recent resurgence being built on solid foundations. Amidst the storm of biblical proportions which struck the South Coast on Saturday, optimism was washed away.
 The search for a solution to the infuriating inconsistency which has dogged Brendan Rodgers' first season at the helm goes on.
 After three successive Premier League victories had re-ignited talk of securing European qualification, his players delivered a painful reality check at St Mary's. Pity the 3,000-strong travelling Kop who braved the 500-mile round trip to witness a performance so abject that it baffled and angered in equal measure. Where was the Liverpool who had battered the likes of Swansea and Wigan into submission with ruthless efficiency?
 Where was the Liverpool who had shown great resilience to dig deep and grind out a cherished victory over Tottenham a week earlier?
 Rodgers' side were unrecognisable from those triumphs as they crashed to a chastening defeat at the hands of lowly Southampton.
 All the qualities they had showcased in recent weeks were left back on Merseyside as standards slipped alarmingly in all departments.
 Defensively, it was a horror show. How Liverpool missed the leadership and organisational skills of Jamie Carragher, who was ruled out with a shin injury. Rather than stake a claim for more regular action, his replacement Martin Skrtel merely showed why he has spent most of the past two months warming the bench.
 Skrtel endured a torrid afternoon and having played a part in all three of Saints' goals it was something of a surprise he didn't walk away with their man of the match bubbly.
 The Slovakian is playing for his Anfield future and this display will have done nothing to dispel Rodgers' doubts about him.
 Daniel Agger also didn't cover himself in glory and the fear is that without the presence of Carragher, Liverpool's back four has a soft centre.
 Too often on Saturday, Skrtel and Agger were bullied, their positional play was poor and only the heroics of Brad Jones saved the Reds from greater embarrassment.
 The worry is that in two months' time the absence of Carragher will be permanent. After the curtain has come down on his remarkable career, there will be some huge boots for Rodgers to fill.
 The manager doesn't just need a centre-back, he needs a dominant, experienced defender whose heart and character is as important as his ability with the ball at his feet.
 The first half on Saturday was comfortably the worst 45 minutes of Rodgers' reign. Liverpool were lethargic both with and without the ball.
 Gallingly, Saints beat the Reds at their own game, pressing high up the pitch and forcing the visitors into repeatedly tossing away possession cheaply.
 With Lucas Leiva having been unable to train due to a knock, Rodgers opted to start Joe Allen ahead of him in midfield but the Welshman struggled badly.
 As he was muscled out of it, Allen clutched the shoulder he's waiting for surgery on. It was no surprise when he failed to emerge for the second half with the introduction of Lucas triggering an instant improvement.
 With Allen playing with an injury and Lucas not fully fit, the decision to overlook the claims of Jordan Henderson was strange.
 Since performing so well in the second leg against Zenit, the England Under-21s skipper has been consigned to bench duty. How Liverpool could have done with his energy on Saturday but by the time he was finally brought on the game was gone.
 As an attacking force, the Reds were impotent. Daniel Sturridge produced his worst display in a Liverpool shirt. The £12million striker's touch was poor and his finishing was wayward.
 Behind him, Luis Suarez was starved of both service and space and his frustration grew, culminating in a crazy late booking for impeding keeper Artur Boruc. It means the Reds' top scorer will be hit with a two-match ban if he's yellow carded in any of the next three matches.
 Goalscorer Philippe Coutinho showed flashes of his class but apart from Jones' display there were precious few positives.
 Southampton were in front inside six minutes. Not for the first time, Glen Johnson was beaten at the back post as Jay Rodriguez was allowed to nod Gaston Ramirez's cross back across goal.
 Morgan Schneiderlin got the better of Skrtel to flick the ball into the far corner. The hosts had won just one of their previous seven games under new boss Mauricio Pochettino but the early goal energised them and they dominated the rest of the first half.
 Liverpool were carved apart far too easily. With Agger appealing forlornly for offside, Kirkby-born Rickie Lambert ran clean through but Jones made a smart block.

Saints were everything the Reds were not – committed, slick and inventive – with the neat interplay between Rickie Lambert, Adam Lallana, Ramirez and Rodriguez causing havoc.
 The overworked Jones thwarted Ramirez, Rodriguez and Lallana but the Aussie keeper was beaten 11 minutes before the break. Skrtel's senseless barge on Lambert handed the Saints a free-kick 25 yards out and once again Liverpool contributed to their own downfall. Fearing the prospect of the ball hitting him, Sturridge turned his back in the wall and Lambert's effort deflected off his backside and left Jones helpless. It was only after Rodriguez was just inches away from adding a third soon after that the visitors belatedly came to life.
 Coutinho couldn't provide the finish after being put clear by Johnson's pass but on the stroke of half-time the Brazilian halved the deficit.
 Suarez's cross was headed back across goal by Steven Gerrard. Sturridge's shot was blocked but Coutinho reacted quickly to tuck away the rebound.
 The stage was set for a second-half fightback against a side who had dropped more points from leading positions this season than anyone else in the top flight. However, it failed to transpire. There was more desire and urgency but frankly there could hardly have been less. Despite enjoying more of the ball the Reds did precious little with it as Boruc remained largely untroubled.
 Jones expertly denied Lallana before Saints wrapped up the points 10 minutes from time. Rodriguez was allowed to run unchallenged from inside the centre circle with both Lucas and Skrtel declining the opportunity to put a tackle in. His first effort was parried by Jones but he followed up to complete the Reds' misery. Once again a few promising steps forward have been followed by a painful step back.



An inspired Southampton earned a crucial win in their battle against relegation as they all but ended Liverpool's top-four hopes.
 The hosts stormed ahead when Jay Rodriguez nodded down for Morgan Schneiderlin to steer in a shot. Rickie Lambert's deflected free-kick added Saints' second before Philippe Coutinho slotted in for the visitors. But Rodriguez completed a home win when he side-footed in after his initial shot was saved by Brad Jones. At a rain-lashed St Mary's, the final whistle was the signal for Southampton to revel in only a second win in eight games as they moved seven points above the relegation zone.
 The south-coast club have now beaten Liverpool in four of the last five league games at home and the out-of-sorts visitors could have little complaint at the result. Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard said he wanted the Reds to have a "perfect" finish to the season.
 But his team were off the pace from the start and any lingering aspirations of Champions League qualification appear to have been ended by a first defeat in four games. Liverpool boss Brendan Rodgers refused to get carried away after the 3-2 win over Tottenham last Sunday and was proved right as the inconsistency which has blighted his side's season struck again.
 The hosts took the lead after six minutes: Gaston Ramirez flying a left-footed cross to the far post where Rodriguez cushioned a header down for Schneiderlin, who guided past goalkeeper Jones from six yards.
 The home side were scything through Liverpool seemingly at will and Southampton skipper Adam Lallana sent a half-volley fizzing over after the Reds failed to clear their lines.
 Lambert also beat the offside trap to race clear, only to have his shot saved by the onrushing Jones. Liverpool centre-back Martin Skrtel looked rusty as he made his first start in a month - and his foul on Lambert led to Southampton's second, with the Saints striker's free-kick deflecting in off Daniel Sturridge.
 The movement and menace of Rodriguez was a key feature of the home side's attacking verve and, after Lallana's shot had been parried across goal by Jones, the forward's half-volley on the swivel went just high of a gaping goal.
 Liverpool belatedly and briefly raised themselves towards the end of the first half as Glen Johnson sent Coutinho clear, with the Brazilian's shot being blocked after keeper Artur Boruc came out to save.
 Coutinho had a spell on loan at Espanyol under Saints manager Mauricio Pochettino last season, with his former boss describing him as "similar to Lionel Messi" this week. And he atoned for his miss when he pulled one back on the stroke of half-time. A Luis Suarez cross was nodded back across the home goal by Gerrard and, after Sturridge's shot was blocked, Coutinho pounced to slot in. Both defences had an air of vulnerability about them after the break, although neither team could capitalise.
 Sturridge scuffed a shot wide after a Gerrard cross was only partially cleared, while Lallana was played through before his steered shot from a tight angle was saved. Liverpool struggled for any cutting edge and Rodriguez compounded their misery with his late goal.
 The forward waltzed through the Liverpool defence and, after his first shot was saved by Jones, Rodriguez slotted in the rebound to secure a deserved three points. Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers: "It certainly wasn't how we have been playing in the past few weeks.
 "We didn't get going until it was 2-0 down. We conceded poor goals which has been unlike us and we are disappointed at that.
 "We never really got started. It certainly wasn't the level we have been at and it was one of those days for us."

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Saints rip up the form book to cruise past Rodgers' rising Liverpool

This was a result and a match that defied form and logic, but then Southampton under Mauricio Pochettino seem to have made that something of a speciality. Since he replaced Nigel Adkins in January, Saints have lost to Queens Park Rangers and Newcastle and failed to beat Norwich and Wigan - but put a team with European ambitions in front of them and they are a different proposition. Until yesterday an improbable victory over Manchester City was Pochettino's only Premier League success, but the style of this dismissal of Liverpool suggests that more will follow, with the caveat that his team's results are scarcely predictable. Yesterday, though, Southampton dominated a team in search of a fifth successive victory, with the league's top scorer Luis Suarez coming into the game in imperious form, and could have scored more than three times, even if their own defending was nothing to brag about.

"I always like to get victories," the Argentinian Pochettino said via an interpreter. "What is important is that the team believes in the methods I am trying to instil. We set up in a very positive way and I think we made Liverpool really uncomfortable on the pitch. We pressed them and put in a really big effort and that's the way we want to play."

Suarez, with seven goals in his previous four appearances, cut a frustrated figure as the openings that Liverpool created failed to come his way. The visitors' defence was especially shambolic in the absence of the injured Jamie Carragher, and Steven Gerrard was unable to establish any dominance in midfield. "We just weren't very good," Liverpool's manager, Brendan Rodgers, said. "We didn't start to play until we were 2-0 down. We looked bright in attack, but it's very difficult when you concede goals like we did. It's something I know we need to improve on and develop as a group."

Brad Jones, the Liverpool goalkeeper, probably guessed he was in for a torrid afternoon when Gaston Ramirez's half-volley sent him sprawling full-length in the opening minutes as Southampton passed and moved at pace like a Paisley-era Liverpool team. After five minutes they were ahead, Ramirez crossed from the right, Jay Rodriguez evaded Glen Johnson to head the ball down and Morgan Schneiderlin beat Martin Skrtel to flick the ball past Jones with the outside of his right foot.

It should have been two after nine minutes. Liverpool fan Rickie Lambert was as surprised as anyone to find himself onside as he ran on to a long hopeful punt, but with only the advancing Jones to beat he hit the ball against the goalkeeper's feet. Then Adam Lallana's shot was parried by Jones, Rodriguez volleying the rebound over.

Just when you wondered if Southampton would regret their profligacy, they doubled the lead after 32 minutes thanks to a huge stroke of fortune. Lambert got up after a foul on him by Skrtel 30 yards out to strike the free-kick straight at the wall, only for the ball to hit Daniel Sturridge and skid wide of the helpless Jones. Yet even as Southampton dominated, their defence looked vulnerable to counter-attacks. After 40 minutes, Philippe Coutinho raced through and hit a shot against the legs of Saints' goalkeeper Artur Boruc when he should have scored. However, the Brazilian - believed to have been a target for Pochettino in January after playing for him on loan at Espanyol last season - made amends in first-half injury time. Sturridge turned on Gerrard's headed pass and fired into a crowd of defenders, the rebound falling for Coutinho to sweep the ball home from five yards.

Anyone who expected both managers to tighten the defences at half-time was pleasantly surprised as the chances continued to flow. Suarez was inches from reaching a chipped pass from Lucas Leiva, Luis Enrique headed away at full stretch to prevent Lallana nodding in, and then Lallana could have made sure after 77 minutes when he timed his run into the penalty area perfectly but was unable to lift the ball over Jones.

It did not matter as Rodriguez made it 3-1 a minute later, running unchallenged from half-way, side-stepping Skrtel and Daniel Agger and shooting low. Jones blocked, but Rodriguez followed up to restore justice to the scoreline. Southampton (4-4-2): Boruc; Clyne, Hooiveld (Fonte, 31), Yoshida, Shaw; Ramirez (S Davis, 55), Cork, Schneiderlin, Lallana (Do Prado, 84); Lambert, Rodriguez. Liverpool (4-4-1-1): Jones; Johnson, Skrtel, Agger, Enrique; Downing, Gerrard, Allen (Leiva, h-t), Coutinho; Suarez; Sturridge (Henderson, 84). Referee: Phil Dowd. Man of the match: Rodriguez (Southampton) Match rating: 8/10

The Sunday Telegraph

Sparkling Southampton outclass woeful Liverpool
SOUTHAMPTON Schneiderlin 6, Lambert 33, Rodriguez 80 3
LIVERPOOL Coutinho 45 1

ROY HODGSON chose to check up on the England captain and his Liverpool contingent before the World Cup qualifying games against San Marino and Montenegro. He must still be looking for them for all the impact they had on a match Southampton dominated from first minute to last. Liverpool, in fact, sunk without trace in the duel between two port cities as the quick-passing, hard-running style demanded by Argentinian coach Mauricio Pochettino begins to take shape on the south coast. Instead of Steven Gerrard, Daniel Sturridge and Glen Johnson, the England coach will note the names of Nathaniel Clyne, Jay Rodriguez and Luke Shaw.

Goals by Morgan Schneiderlin and Rickie Lambert deservedly put Southampton ahead at half-time before Rodriguez completed the second victory for Pochettino since he took over in January. Southampton have opened up a gap between them and the sides at the bottom and two more wins from the last eight games, include meetings with Reading, Sunderland and Stoke, should see them remain in the Premier League.

Of Liverpool, the less written the better. After a decent recent run had prompted talk of European football next season, they reverted to their early-season form. Worryingly for Brendan Rodgers, his team did not seem interested in matching Southampton for effort let alone skill and Martin Skrtel and Daniel Agger were bullied into submission by Lambert and Rodriguez.

Not even Gerrard could lift his team and of the other England squad members, Johnson was lacklustre and Sturridge had no visible effect on the balance of power. Only Luis Suarez had the appetite for a fight. "No excuse," said Rodgers. "We were well beaten. It was just a poor day for us. We're back to where we were in the first few months. We only started playing when we were 2-0 down."

Southampton's early goal came from the Nigel Adkins playbook; only the personnel had changed. Instead of Lambert for the knockdown on the far post it was Rodriguez and instead of Adam Lallana there was Schneiderlin to flick the header past Brad Jones for a neatly worked goal. The former Saints manager might add infringement of copyright to his list of grievances against the club. Had Lambert not dithered a fraction when one-on-one with Jones moments later, Liverpool's defensive embarrassment would have been compounded. It only took a simple long ball to leave Agger and Skrtel utterly exposed and Lambert should have done better. But the striker made up for his error on the half-hour when, with a generous deflection off Sturridge's backside, he doubled the lead from a long-range free kick.

In truth, Southampton could have been out of sight by half-time, so disjointed and lacklustre were Liverpool, who were completely outfought and outwitted by a rampant home team. Rodriguez snapped a shot inches wide of Jones's outstretched hand and Lallana and Ramirez took it in turns to exploit the huge spaces down the right side of the Liverpool defence.

On the stroke of half-time the otherwise anonymous Philippe Coutinho popped up to give Liverpool a way back into a match that should have long gone. Rodgers's response to the shambles was to switch Coutinho into the middle with Suarez moving to the left and Gerrard pushing further forward. Pochettino brought on Steven Davis to keep watch on the England captain and Southampton continued to be quicker to every ball and, apart from the odd flurry by Suarez, penned Liverpool back into their own half. "We made Liverpool really uncomfortable by pressing them high up the pitch," Pochettino said. "We pressed them and pushed them way back and that's the way we want to play." The only surprise was that it took Southampton so long to kill the game off. Rodriguez completed an excellent afternoon by sashaying past Agger and Skrtel. His first shot was well blocked by Jones but he made no mistake with the follow-up.

If Southampton play with the same verve and spirit for the remainder of the season, survival should be a formality; if Liverpool play like this for the rest of the season, Europe will be a very distant frontier. Star man: Jay Rodriguez (Southampton) Yellow card: Liverpool: Suarez Referee: P Dowd Attendance: 32,070 Southampton: Boruc 6, Clyne 7, Yoshida 6, Hooiveld 6 (Fonte 32min, 7), Shaw 7, Schneiderlin 7, Cork 6, Ramirez 7 (S Davis 55min, 6), Rodriguez 8, Lallana 7 (Do Prado 84min), Lambert 7. Liverpool: Jones 5, Johnson 5, Agger 5, Skrtel 4, Enrique 5, Allen 5 (Lucas 46min, 5), Gerrard 5, Coutinho 5, Suarez 6, Downing 5, Sturridge 5 (Henderson 83min).

Date: 16 March 2013
 Opposition: Southampton
 Competition: League

Echo	Sunday Times	Sun Telegraph	Independent
BBC	Observer	Times	Telegraph
	Sun Independent	Guardian	Mirror

16 March 2013



THE SUNDAY TIMES

Slick Saints crush Liverpool's grand ambitions

Southampton 3

Schneiderlin 6, Lambert 33, Rodriguez 80

Liverpool 1

Coutinho 45 Att: 32,070

Many a voyage to Europe has started from Southampton but surely Liverpool's aspirations of a Champions League expedition next season were holed below the waterline by the Solent yesterday. Southampton were magnificent, belying their lowly league berth with a bravura performance, storming their way to three points in what will surely be a successful fight against relegation.

Liverpool threw themselves a lifeline with a reply, against the run of play, seconds before halftime but Brendan Rodgers' men, who arrived in search of their fourth successive league victory, were always second best on a memorable afternoon for the jubilant home supporters in a record league attendance at St Mary's Stadium. Mauricio Pochettino, the Southampton manager, said: "We set out the game in a very positive way and the players believed in how we wanted to go into it. I think we made Liverpool really uncomfortable on the pitch. We pressed them a lot and we put in a big effort.

"Today my team played really well. We pushed them and pressured them. We knew their attacking game is based on the prowess of Gerrard, Coutinho and Suarez and we neutralised that threat."

Rodgers admitted: "We just weren't good enough. Offensively we were bright, we created chances but our defending wasn't good enough. You also have to give credit to Southampton. Today's a reminder that we need to build the squad and improve."

Southampton ripped into Liverpool from the start and moved ahead in the sixth minute.

Rickie Lambert's arching cross from the right was headed back by the outstanding Jay Rodriguez and Morgan Schneiderlin's flick was sufficiently well-angled to creep beyond Liverpool goalkeeper Brad Jones. Adam Lallana smashed just over after Liverpool struggled to clear a corner and moments later the home side should have been two ahead but Lambert, finding himself clean through, drummed a shot against Jones's legs.

Southampton, with England manager Roy Hodgson looking on, were irresistible and the second goal arrived in the 33rd minute. Lambert's 20-yard free-kick appeared to take a nick off Danny Sturridge, manning the Liverpool wall, on its way past Jones. It might have been even worse for the shell-shocked visitors five minutes later but Rodriguez's shot skidded just wide.

Yet Southampton never looked completely secure at the back. Substitute Jose Fonte stepped in with a key interception to cut off Sturridge's supply to the well-placed Luis Suarez, then Philippe Coutinho should have done a lot better than shoot at Artur Boruc when clean through. However, the Brazilian winger made no mistake in first-half added time, tucking away a rebound after Sturridge's shot had been blocked.

It seemed harsh on Southampton after such a rousing first-half performance but their determination, as well as their attacking verve, remained undimmed after the interval. Liverpool had replaced Joe Allen with Lucas in an attempt to get a grip on midfield but Southampton still surged forward.

Liverpool improved somewhat on their anonymous first-half display and Boruc had to beware the increasingly greasy conditions to deal cleanly with Steven Gerrard's 77th-minute pile-driver.

Yet there could be no denying Southampton. A minute later, Lallana burst through but found Jones smothering the ball at his feet.

It hardly mattered a further minute later when the Liverpool defence were again shredded by a run from outside the penalty area. Rodriguez galloped through and though Jones pushed out his first effort, the Southampton striker tucked away the rebound.

This was only Pochettino's second win in eight attempts as Southampton manager. His only previous success had come against league champions Manchester City. Perhaps it is the big occasion that brings the best out of the Argentine coach and his players. Chelsea, the next visitors to St Mary's on Easter Saturday, had better beware.

Southampton (4-1-3-2) Boruc; Clyne, Yoshida, Hooiveld (Fonte 32), Shaw; Cork; Ramirez (S Davis 55), Schneiderlin, Lallana (Do Prado 84); Lambert, Rodriguez. Subs K Davis (g), Forren, Ward-Prowse, Puncheon.

Liverpool (4-4-2) Jones; Johnson, Skrtel, Agger, Enrique; Downing, Gerrard, Allen (Lucas h-t), Coutinho; Suarez, Sturridge (Henderson 84). Subs Gulacsi (g), Suso, Shelvey, Ibe, Wisdom. Booked Suarez.

Referee P Dowd (Staffs).

The Observer

Rampant Rodriguez seals vital points for Southampton

SOUTHAMPTON 3

Schneiderlin 6 Lambert 33 Rodriguez 80

LIVERPOOL 1

Coutinho 45

At the end of a week in which a new pope was elected, it seemed fitting the Saints should prevail in this contest against a woeful Liverpool side that was far from infallible. Goals from Morgan Schneiderlin, Rickie Lambert and Jay Rodriguez won the game and moved Southampton above Sunderland in the Premier League table, three points nearer to safety.

An entertaining match sparked into life from the start, the players perhaps having been jolted into a state of high alert by the bang of a red, pre-match smoke bomb set off by Liverpool fans protesting about season ticket prices. After lively opening exchanges, Southampton took the lead after six minutes, Rodriguez getting on the end of a floated Gaston Ramirez cross to the far post and knocking the ball down for Schneiderlin to flick home from five yards out after outmuscling Daniel Agger. With Liverpool rattled and their defence in disarray, Southampton squandered excellent chances to increase their lead, Adam Lallana sending one surface-to-air screamer fizzing inches over the crossbar from distance, just before Lambert fluffed a one-on-one with Brad Jones after springing the offside trap with an impeccably timed run. Jones was forced into action again in the 22nd minute, saving well from Ramirez at his near post, but parrying the ball to Rodriguez, whose acrobatic follow-up went wide. Seconds later, Rodriguez volleyed over from the same position.

The home side were rampant and it was a matter of when, not if, they would trouble the scoreboard operator for a second time. Lambert duly obliged with a free-kick from the inside left, his curling drive finding a gap in Liverpool's porous wall and deflecting past Jones off the backside that Daniel Sturridge had obligingly turned its way. By half-time, Southampton could and should have been six or seven up, with Rodriguez notching a hat-trick of near misses and Lallana also going close.

Having looked largely toothless and clueless, Liverpool gratefully snatched a lifeline in first-half injury time when Philippe Coutinho drove home from six yards out after Sturridge's effort at redemption had been blocked. Before that point, a curiously out-of-sorts Liverpool had offered little, keeping Artur Boruc on his toes with harmless long-range efforts and pass-and-move forays that regularly broke down without any need for Saintry intercession.

Southampton went into this match having ended a run of back-to-back defeats with last weekend's stalemate at Norwich. Nathaniel Clyne returned at right-back, with Maya Yoshida resuming his usual duties in the centre of defence and Jose Fonte dropping to the bench, only to return to action just after the half-hour mark after Jos Hooiveld limped off injured.

A nagging calf injury scuppered Pepe Reina's chances of passing a fitness test, hence Jones's presence between the sticks for the Merseyside team. In defence, Agger had returned in place of the injured Jamie Carragher, while central midfielder Joe Allen soldiered on despite fears his season had been prematurely ended by a shoulder injury that requires surgery. His match at St Mary's certainly ended prematurely, when the Liverpool manager, Brendan Rodgers, withdrew the Welshman at half-time and sent on Lucas Leiva.

Liverpool's performance improved after the break but their hosts continued to look more composed and dangerous despite the partial erosion of their two-goal cushion. Steven Gerrard and Luis Suarez brought a few smart saves out of Boruc, and Sturridge shot wide, but Southampton's pace on the counter and relentless crossing from either flank continued to wreak occasional havoc among a visibly jittery Liverpool back four.

The same back four went awol when Rodriguez picked up the ball on the halfway line and ran at them with 10 minutes to go, allowing the midfielder to sprint undisturbed and fire a low drive past the hideously under-protected Jones.

SOUTHAMPTON

Boruc; Clyne, Yoshida, Hooiveld (Fonte 32), Shaw; Schneiderlin, Cork; Ramirez (S Davis 55), Rodriguez, Lallana (Guly 84); Lambert Subs not used K Davis, Forren, Ward-Prowse, Puncheon

LIVERPOOL

Jones; Johnson, Jose Enrique, Agger, Skrtel; Allen (Lucas ht), Gerrard; Downing, Coutinho, Sturridge (Henderson 83); Suarez (Booked)

Subs not used Gulacsi, Wisdom, Shelvey, Suso, Ibe

St Mary's 32,070

Game rating 8/10

Referee Phil Dowd

Date: 16 March 2013

Opposition: Southampton

Competition: League

Echo	Sunday Times	Sun Telegraph	Independent		16 March 2013
BBC	Observer	Times	Telegraph		
	Sun Independent	Guardian	Mirror		



90:00+3:32 Full time The referee blows his whistle to end the game.
90:00+2:55 The assistant referee signals for offside against Luis Suarez. Artur Boruc restarts play with the free kick.
90:00+2:09 Jack Cork takes a shot. Save made by Brad Jones.
90:00+1:31 Artur Boruc takes the direct free kick.
90:00+1:31 Booking for Luis Suarez.
90:00+1:21 Luis Suarez gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Artur Boruc.
90:00+0:17 The ball is sent over by Glen Johnson, Shot from close in by Sanchez Jose Enrique misses to the left of the goal.
89:34 The referee penalises Morgan Schneiderlin for handball. Martin Skrtel takes the free kick.
88:26 Rickie Lambert crosses the ball, Steven Gerrard makes a clearance.
86:42 Short corner taken by Stewart Downing.
86:33 The ball is sent over by Glen Johnson, blocked by Luke Shaw.
83:16 Substitution Substitution Guly Do Prado replaces Adam Lallana.
82:55 Substitution Substitution Jordan Henderson replaces Daniel Sturridge.
79:23 Jack Cork provided the assist for the goal.
79:23 Goal scored Goal - Jay Rodriguez - Southamp'n 3 - 1 Liverpool Jay Rodriguez finds the back of the net with a goal from inside the area low into the middle of the goal. Southampton 3-1 Liverpool.
79:20 Jay Rodriguez takes a shot. Save by Brad Jones.
77:00 Adam Lallana takes the chance to get an effort at goal. Save by Brad Jones.
76:12 Steven Gerrard takes a shot. Save by Artur Boruc.
75:51 Morgan Schneiderlin gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Leiva Lucas. Leiva Lucas takes the free kick.
74:22 The ball is sent over by Morgan Schneiderlin, clearance made by Glen Johnson.
73:43 Corner taken by Steven Davis, clearance made by Daniel Agger.
73:27 Jay Rodriguez takes a shot. Blocked by Martin Skrtel.
73:06 Daniel Sturridge sends in a cross, Artur Boruc makes a save.
72:21 Outswinging corner taken from the right by-line by Philippe Coutinho, clearance made by Maya Yoshida.
71:29 Adam Lallana challenges Stewart Downing unfairly and gives away a free kick. Steven Gerrard crosses the ball in from the free kick, save by Artur Boruc.
70:46 Free kick awarded for a foul by Morgan Schneiderlin on Philippe Coutinho. Direct free kick taken by Martin Skrtel.
69:39 Unfair challenge on Adam Lallana by Daniel Sturridge results in a free kick. Jack Cork takes the direct free kick.
69:05 Inswinging corner taken left-footed by Stewart Downing from the right by-line, clearance made by Jose Fonte.
68:16 Rickie Lambert gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Steven Gerrard. Steven Gerrard takes the free kick.
66:54 Outswinging corner taken from the right by-line by Adam Lallana, clearance made by Steven Gerrard.
66:45 The ball is crossed by Nathaniel Clyne, Glen Johnson manages to make a clearance.
65:45 The ball is delivered by Stewart Downing, clearance made by Maya Yoshida.
65:24 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Philippe Coutinho by Jack Cork. Direct free kick taken by Stewart Downing.
63:47 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Luis Suarez by Nathaniel Clyne. Luis Suarez fires a strike on goal direct from the free kick, save made by Artur Boruc.
62:32 Philippe Coutinho challenges Jay Rodriguez unfairly and gives away a free kick. Maya Yoshida takes the free kick.
60:16 Steven Davis takes the inswinging corner, save made by Brad Jones.
59:08 A cross is delivered by Rickie Lambert, save by Brad Jones.
58:55 Centre by Steven Davis, Martin Skrtel makes a clearance.
58:36 Adam Lallana takes a outswinging corner.
58:27 A cross is delivered by Jay Rodriguez, clearance by Sanchez Jose Enrique.
56:30 Unfair challenge on Steven Gerrard by Steven Davis results in a free kick. Free kick taken by Brad Jones.
56:19 The ball is swung over by Adam Lallana, clearance made by Glen Johnson.
53:53 The ball is sent over by Steven Gerrard, Effort from inside the area by Daniel Sturridge misses to the right of the target.
54:22 Substitution Substitution Gaston Ramirez leaves the field to be replaced by Steven Davis.
53:53 The ball is delivered by Steven Gerrard, Effort from the edge of the penalty box by Daniel Sturridge goes wide of the right-hand upright.
53:08 Corner taken by Steven Gerrard, Jack Cork manages to make a clearance.
50:49 Free kick awarded for a foul by Philippe Coutinho on Jack Cork. Maya Yoshida takes the free kick.
49:52 The referee blows for offside against Philippe Coutinho. Artur Boruc takes the indirect free kick.
49:10 Sanchez Jose Enrique crosses the ball, save by Artur Boruc.
45:01 The second half has started.
45:01 Substitution Substitution Leiva Lucas joins the action as a substitute, replacing Joe Allen.
45:00+2:24 Half time The referee calls an end to the first half.
45:00+0:30 Daniel Sturridge takes a shot. Blocked by Jose Fonte.
45:00+0:32 Daniel Sturridge provided the assist for the goal.
45:00+0:32 Goal scored Goal - Philippe Coutinho - Southamp'n 2 - 1 Liverpool Goal scored by Philippe Coutinho from close in to the bottom left corner of the goal. Southampton 2-1 Liverpool.
43:46 Joe Allen concedes a free kick for a foul on Adam Lallana. Gaston Ramirez takes the direct free kick.
42:25 Adam Lallana produces a right-footed shot from deep inside the penalty box which goes wide of the left-hand post.

41:37 The ball is swung over by Nathaniel Clyne, Headed effort from deep inside the penalty area by Jay Rodriguez misses to the left of the goal.
39:36 Philippe Coutinho takes a shot. Save made by Artur Boruc.
39:36 Philippe Coutinho takes a shot. Save by Artur Boruc.
38:02 Jay Rodriguez has an effort at goal from just outside the area which goes wide of the left-hand post.
37:08 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Joe Allen by Adam Lallana. Glen Johnson takes the free kick.
36:37 Daniel Sturridge crosses the ball, Jose Fonte manages to make a clearance.
36:03 Rickie Lambert sends in a cross.
35:13 Daniel Sturridge is ruled offside. Maya Yoshida takes the free kick.
32:38 Goal scored Goal - Rickie Lambert - Southamp'n 2 - 0 Liverpool Free kick scored by Rickie Lambert from outside the area to the bottom right corner of the goal. Southampton 2-0 Liverpool.
31:48 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Rickie Lambert by Martin Skrtel.
29:18 Artur Boruc takes the indirect free kick.
29:18 Substitution Substitution Jose Fonte comes on in place of Jos Hooiveld.
29:18 Daniel Sturridge is ruled offside.
28:24 Shot by Daniel Sturridge from 30 yards. Save made by Artur Boruc.
26:48 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Jos Hooiveld by Luis Suarez. Direct free kick taken by Artur Boruc.
24:54 The ball is swung over by Sanchez Jose Enrique.
22:00 Outswinging corner taken right-footed by Adam Lallana, save by Brad Jones.
21:50 The ball is delivered by Gaston Ramirez, Sanchez Jose Enrique manages to make a clearance.
20:26 Adam Lallana takes a shot. Brad Jones makes a save.
20:29 Jay Rodriguez produces a right-footed shot from inside the six-yard box that clears the bar.
20:08 Adam Lallana takes a shot. Save by Brad Jones.
17:55 Jay Rodriguez fouled by Joe Allen, the ref awards a free kick. Free kick taken by Jack Cork.
17:05 Jay Rodriguez takes a shot. Save by Brad Jones.
17:05 Effort from 20 yards by Jay Rodriguez. Save by Brad Jones.
15:51 Foul by Luis Suarez on Morgan Schneiderlin, free kick awarded. Direct free kick taken by Maya Yoshida.
14:58 Gaston Ramirez takes a shot. Save by Brad Jones.
14:29 Outswinging corner taken right-footed by Adam Lallana from the right by-line to the near post.
14:15 The ball is delivered by Nathaniel Clyne, blocked by Philippe Coutinho.
11:10 Martin Skrtel fouled by Rickie Lambert, the ref awards a free kick. Brad Jones takes the direct free kick.
9:46 Corner taken by Gaston Ramirez played to the near post.
9:34 Rickie Lambert takes a shot. Save by Brad Jones.
9:00 Effort on goal by Adam Lallana from just inside the box goes harmlessly over the target.
8:47 Centre by Adam Lallana, Martin Skrtel makes a clearance.
5:17 Assist on the goal came from Jay Rodriguez.
5:17 Goal scored Goal - Morgan Schneiderlin - Southamp'n 1 - 0 Liverpool Morgan Schneiderlin scores a goal from close range to the bottom right corner of the goal. Southampton 1-0 Liverpool.
5:14 The ball is sent over by Rickie Lambert.
4:55 The official flags Daniel Sturridge offside. Artur Boruc takes the indirect free kick.
4:09 Luke Shaw delivers the ball, Effort on goal by Gaston Ramirez from 12 yards. Save by Brad Jones. Steven Gerrard fouled by Morgan Schneiderlin, the ref awards a free kick. Steven Gerrard takes the free kick.
2:07 The assistant referee signals for offside against Daniel Sturridge. Artur Boruc restarts play with the free kick.
1:35 Inswinging corner taken by Stewart Downing, clearance made by Morgan Schneiderlin.
1:07 Unfair challenge on Jack Cork by Steven Gerrard results in a free kick. Luke Shaw takes the free kick.
0:00 The referee gets the game started.