

Date: 16 September 2013

Opposition: Swansea City

Competition: League

BBC	Times	Telegraph	Echo
	Guardian	Mirror	Post
	Independent	Mail	Evening Post

16 September
2013

THE TIMES

Shelvey is hero and villain as Swansea get their fair share

Swansea City 2 Liverpool 2

Only the greatest players have games named after them, but this match will for ever be associated with a more modest talent. JonJo Shelvey opened the scoring for Swansea City after 87 seconds and went on to claim three assists, although two were for his former club as Liverpool secured a point to move back to the top of the Barclays Premier League table.

Shelvey was advised by Steven Gerrard to stay with Liverpool last summer and for much of a thrilling match at the Liberty Stadium, it seemed he had heeded his former captain's words, his errors laying on goals for Daniel Sturridge and Victor Moses. The England midfielder is a Marmite sort of player -- loved for his athleticism and commitment, lamented for the carelessness in possession that sometimes characterises his play -- but just such a mixed bag amounted to a personal interpretation of the good, the bad and the ugly last night.

Throughout his travails, Shelvey's character stood out, however, as lesser men would have sunk into self-pity, and only the hardest of hearts would have begrudged him the intelligent header that created Michu's equaliser.

Swansea looked the more likely winners in the last 25 minutes until Chico Flores's brilliant tackle on Iago Aspas in the final seconds, with Jonathan de Guzman twice going close for the home team, but a draw was the right result.

While Liverpool will look back on missed opportunities after taking a 2-1 lead towards the end of a first half they dominated, Brendan Rodgers's side are not yet at the stage where they can regard a point here as two dropped. The visiting team lost much fluency after Philippe Coutinho left the field in the 55th minute with a shoulder injury, and if the problem is serious then Luis Suarez's return from suspension next week could prove particularly timely.

Liverpool's unbeaten start to the season in the absence of Suarez is a testament to the depth of the squad quietly assembled by Rodgers, which may develop into the club's strongest since the last time they led the table at this stage of the season six years ago.

Moses and Mamadou Sakho impressed on their debuts, but it is the prospect of seeing Suarez, Sturridge and Coutinho playing together in the coming weeks that will have their supporters salivating. Swansea are definitely basking in a golden period that even the ambitious Rodgers could not have dreamt of when he took over a Championship club three years ago, but progress brings problems of its own. This was the first of seven games in the space of 19 days, and they could have done without losing the muscular presence of Wilfried Bony before Thursday's Europa League group game away to Valencia.

Given such a daunting fixture list Swansea need every break going, and they received one to take the lead with their first attack in the second minute.

Angel Rangel's cross from the right byline seemed innocuous enough, but Liverpool's defending was sloppy. First Sakho and then Jordan Henderson failed to clear the danger with attempted headers, presenting Shelvey with an unexpected sight of goal. His first effort suggested panic as he scuffed a volley, but to his credit he persevered. His second shot was blocked by Martin Skrtel and after being the quickest to respond he scored with his third, curing a left-foot shot past Simon Mignolet to score his first goal for Swansea.

Such an early success may have gone to Shelvey's head however, as a minute later he lost it completely, directing an attempted back-pass straight into the path of Sturridge without even looking. Given his spectacular start to the season the England striker did not require a second invitation, calmly slotting the ball past Michel Vorm for his fifth goal of the campaign.

After such a frenetic opening many sides would attempt to settle into a more sustainable pace, but these teams have been taught that attack is the best form of defence. Relieved to be on level terms, Liverpool sought to capitalise on their let-off, with the attacking trio of Coutinho, Moses and Henderson mesmerising Swansea with their movement and Gerrard providing the ammunition from deep. Coutinho went close after a one-two with Henderson, and Sturridge shot over the bar before seeing a close-range header saved by Vorm after Moses' pin-point cross from the corner flag. Swansea also contributed to an open game, with the inappropriately named Bony twice denied by good saves from Mignolet, but it came as no surprise when Liverpool took the lead nine minutes before half-time. Swansea's sorrow was once again self-inflicted, with Shelvey settling for a sustained spell as the villain after flirting with heroism.

With his bald head and hulking frame Shelvey is hard to ignore, although on this occasion the camera again lingered on him for the wrong reasons. His attempted cross-field ball went straight to Moses, a dreadful error given he was under no pressure whatsoever. The Nigeria forward took full advantage, transferring the ball onto his right foot at the end of a rapid run to beat Vorm at his near post. In keeping with a breathless encounter Swansea could have equalised soon after, with Michu's shot on the turn saved by Mignolet and Bony's stabbed effort blocked by the diving Skrtel. Laudrup opted to make one change at half-time, with De Guzman replacing Nathan Dyer, but, to the surprise of many, left Shelvey on the pitch. Within ten minutes his eventful evening had taken in a booking after a shoving match with Lucas Leiva in which he was initially the innocent party, and ten minutes later he helped Swansea to an equaliser they merited.

Typically Shelvey was involved in the move twice, getting things going with a long ball towards Bony from his own half, which he diligently followed.

Bony laid the ball off to Leon Britton, whose floated pass Shelvey flicked on to

Michu, who made no mistake from close range. The Spanish striker's embrace of Shelvey provided a fitting symbol of a remarkable evening.

Swansea City: (4-2-3-1): M Vorm - A Rangel, J M Flores, A Williams, B Davies - L Britton, J Shelvey - N Dyer (sub: J de Guzman, 46min), Michu, W Routledge - W Bony (sub: A Pozuelo, 66). Substitutes not used: G Tremmel, J Amat, D Tiendalli, J Canas, A Vazquez. Booked: Williams, Shelvey. Liverpool (4-2-3-1): S Mignolet - A Wisdom (sub: K Toure, 69), M Skrtel, M Sakho, J Enrique - S Gerrard, Lucas Leiva - J Henderson, P Coutinho (sub: I Aspas, 54), V Moses (sub: R Sterling, 81) - D Sturridge. Substitutes not used: B Jones, L Alberto, J Ibe, M Kelly. Booked: Lucas, Henderson, Wisdom. Referee: M Oliver.

the guardian

Shelvey saint and sinner as Swansea foil Liverpool

Liverpool lost their 100% record but Daniel Sturridge kept his and the England striker's fourth goal in four games helped to take his team back to the top of the Premier League after a thrilling rollercoaster scrap with improving Swansea, who move out of the bottom three.

Sturridge will be the focus of media attention, a week after missing England's World Cup qualifiers against Moldova and Ukraine, but he was joined in the spotlight last night by Swansea's Jonjo Shelvey who, playing against his old club, was involved each time the ball ended up in the net. He scored the first goal after only two minutes, gave away two with ruinous passes, laid on the fourth for Michu and was booked for clashing with the equally competitive Lucas Leiva, with whom he once shared the same midfield.

Swansea thought they had the initiative after two minutes, when Shelvey got away from Mamadou Sakho, only for the Frenchman's recovery tackle to block the initial shot. Unfortunately for the defender, the ball fell back at Shelvey's feet and he drove it handsomely past Simon Mignolet, right to left, from 12 yards. Liverpool were level within a couple of minutes, with Shelvey's night taking a horrible turn for the worse. His dreadful backpass gave possession to Sturridge, who made it four in four with a crisp finish from 15 yards.

Of course England could have done with him against Ukraine. That said, too much was made of the fact that he was back in action after withdrawing from the England squad. Brendan Rodgers had a simple rebuttal for the club v country conspiracy theorists. Given a week in which to recover, Sturridge's thigh strain had responded to intensive treatment and he was sufficiently restored to take his place as the focal point of the Liverpool attack. It is a role he has performed with distinction in the continued absence of Luis Suarez, who completes his 10-match suspension at the weekend. For the audience this match had everything last week's borefest in Ukraine lacked - well, apart from watertight defences, as Roy Hodgson would doubtless point out. Almost absurdly open, play switched from end to end with a regularity more commonly associated with Andy Murray and company, providing a glut of chances at both ends.

Wilfried Bony had Mignolet at full stretch from 25 yards, then fired over from close in; Jordan Henderson saw a goalbound shot blocked by Ben Davies; and Sturridge might have struck again when Victor Moses' left-wing cross set him up for a firm, downward header from six yards which Michel Vorm repelled with his legs. Hence the next goal was delayed until the 36th minute, when Shelvey was again left clutching his head in despairing hands. Another misplaced pass, this one in midfield, let in Moses, who ran on with confident purpose to the edge of the D, from where he thumped the ball past Vorm's right hand. The goalkeeper appeared to be unsighted by Ashley Williams' unavailing attempt to block the shot. Cut and thrust, punch and counterpunch defined the match. Mignolet's save denied Michu from distance; Nathan Dyer was thwarted at whites-of-the-eyes range by Martin Skrtel's bruising goalline intervention. Meanwhile the runaway Jack Russell they call Shelvey continued to explore the full gamut. He was booked, along with Lucas, for an exchange of physical unpleasanties. Then, after 63 minutes he was in the thick of things yet again, when his headed knock-down enabled Michu to restore equality with his first goal of the season in the league, an angled shot from 12 yards. Swansea finished strongly and Jonathan De Guzman, on as a substitute, fizzed a shot over the bar, then demanded a top-notch save from Mignolet with a free-kick from 25 yards. An encouraging performance leaves the Welsh team in good shape for Thursday's Europa League tie away to Valencia. Liverpool are eagerly awaiting the return of Suarez, who will be available again after Saturday's match at home to Southampton. Rodgers said: "For the first 65 minutes we were very good, then for the last 25 we had to show another side and dig in. There was evidence to show that we are improving all the time and in the next couple of weeks we've got one of the best strikers in the world coming back."

Swansea City 4-2-3-1 Vorm; Rangel, Chico, Williams*, Davies; Britton, Shelvey*; Dyer (De Guzman, h-t), Michu, Routledge; Bony (Pozuelo, 66).

Subs not used Tremmel, Amat, Tiendalli, Canas, Pozuelo, Vazquez.

Liverpool 4-2-3-1 Mignolet; Wisdom* (Toure, 69), Skrtel, Sakho, Jose Enrique; Lucas*, Gerrard; Henderson*, Coutinho (Aspas, 55), Moses (Sterling, 80); Sturridge.

Subs not used Jones, Toure, Alberto, Ibe, Kelly.

Referee: M Oliver.

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The Mail

Jonjo kops it!

tELL you what. Let's call it a draw. Against his former club, Jonjo Shelvey had a hand in all four goals. For Swansea City he scored one and made one, for Liverpool he inadvertently provided the assist for a further two. He was also booked. It was a busy night for the Voldemort of the Valleys.

The least that can be said about Shelvey is he wears his heart on his sleeve. Rejected by Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers, this was always going to be a big match for him.

This could have expressed itself in a variety of ways but, fortunately, Shelvey kept it clean. Even his booking owed more to Lucas Leiva instigating an altercation than any wrongdoing on Shelvey's part. If only he had been as blameless for Liverpool's goals. Instead, having already made one calamitous bumble after three minutes, Shelvey almost gifted his former club all three points with a woeful crossfield pass after 36 minutes.

It flew straight to the feet of Victor Moses and he exacted swift punishment, bursting on goal and striking a low shot past Michel Vorm from range.

At that moment, Liverpool were on course to maintain the only 100 per cent record in the Premier League -- and Moses's part in that was looking to be a major faux pas by Chelsea and Jose Mourinho.

He is still their player, after all. Loaned out for the season, presumably with the thought that Liverpool, the recipients, did not present a serious threat to Chelsea's ambitions. After all, they wouldn't help Manchester United out of a hole in quite the same way. With Liverpool top of the league at this early stage of the season for the first time since 2007, that is beginning to look a little too generous for comfort. This was still a handy result, in the circumstances.

Swansea are no walkover, despite United's four goals here on the first Saturday of the season. This wasn't a bad point for Liverpool and, either way, Moses earned it for them. Just as Shelvey, ultimately, atoned for his sins by setting up Swansea's equaliser. Leon Britton played the pass from deep and Shelvey headed it down, sweetly, into the path of Michu, who finished in the manner of his first season in English football. So, honours even at Shelvey 2 Shelvey 2. Yet if the second part of his night was memorable, the first almost beggared belief.

A player can take the need to show respect to a former club too far.

Shelvey seemed to instantly regret his goal celebration having put Swansea ahead after 89 seconds, but what he did little more than a minute later took cordiality towards old team-mates a step too far.

Still, it did solve rather a lot of question. In a matter of moments we understand why Liverpool bought Shelvey, and equally why they sold him.

Start with the positives. Determination, aggression, perseverance. Shelvey's opening goal for Swansea may have started with a monumental miscue, but he made up for it in a mighty persistence that somehow mined an excellent outcome from what should have been barren ground.

Attempting a shot from just outside the area, Shelvey instead barrelled the ball into the ground in front of him, a development that so bemused Liverpool's defenders they almost watched what happened with interest, rather than sensing the danger.

Shelvey, therefore was first to react, and sped past Mamadou Sakho, the most expensive defender in the history of Liverpool, to hit a low shot blocked by Martin Skrtel.

Still, he wasn't finished. With a drive that would make the Duracell Bunny seem a slacker, he had a third shot at the target and this time, got through. He wouldn't make much of a sniper, but if anyone has a dead horse that needs flogging, Jonjo's your man.

He celebrated, then thought better of it, and ended up settling for a meek one-handed shot to the Liverpool end, endearing him to neither side. Fortunately, the home supporters were too busy celebrating to notice this unnecessary compromise.

What followed almost instantly, however, demonstrated why Shelvey was never going to become a fixture in Rodgers' regime.

The Liverpool manager wants players who are not afraid to pass under pressure, but they must think, too.

Shelvey's mind was elsewhere when he desperately underhit a pass back to goalkeeper Vorm, allowing Daniel Sturridge to intercept.

In his current form, there was only one outcome and the finish, first-time, was magnificent. There were chances at either end and both goalkeepers were required to make fine saves. It was also the first time in this Premier League season that more than two goals had been scored before half-time.

A defensive failure, maybe, but it felt good. Indeed, there would have been more were it not for the excellent form of Vorm and Simon Mignolet.

Wilfried Bony should have done better with another effort, following a well worked one-two with Michu -- but Mignolet had to be at his best again after 37 minutes when Michu struck another low one, this time dipping too.

Just two minutes later, Mignolet kept out Nathan Dyer on the right, the ball parried into the path of Bony, who was just beaten to it by the intervention of Skrtel. Yet the best of the lot came from Vorm.

In the 25th minute, Moses cut inside from the left and Sturridge, anticipating the next action, was already moving into position for the header. Moses found him perfectly, Sturridge headed down, as he should, Vorm read it too, and deflected more than tipped the ball wide.

The Daily Telegraph

Sweet and sour night for old boy Shelvey

Swansea City 2 Shelvey 2, Michu 64

Liverpool 2 Sturridge 4, Moses 36 Att: 20,000

Jonjo Shelvey had one of those eventful evenings that will grace "What Happened Next?" quizzes. The England midfielder scored Swansea's first, gifted two nightmare balls that allowed his old Liverpool team-mates to equalise through Daniel Sturridge and then lead through Victor Moses, before supplying a more legitimate assist by teeing up Michu's equaliser. Shelvey's name also went into the referee's book as well as countless headlines as Liverpool surrendered their faultless start to the Premier League season in a compelling 90 minutes of entertainment. Shelvey's face had adorned the cover of the programme and his name was on everyone's lips after an extraordinary opening four minutes for the midfielder who swapped Merseyside for the Mumbles this summer. He started nine games in the Premier League and a similar number in assorted cups but always knew the size of the obstacle blocking his way to regular football, the Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard.

So he moved on in search of regular football, moving to Swansea for [pounds sterling]5million and immediately flourishing under Michael Laudrup. This reacquaintance with his old team-mates was sweet and sour in the first half. After two minutes, Shelvey miskicked 25 yards out but was quick to regain the loose ball, brushing past the [pounds sterling]18million Mamadou Sakho easily. Martin Skrtel slid in but Shelvey turned and stroked the ball leftfooted past Simon Mignolet. Shelvey raised an arm as he was surrounded by his jubilant teammates but he did not milk the celebrations. Maybe he was thinking of his old colleagues, of showing respect. He was soon not thinking enough.

The little grey cells became scrambled two minutes later. Sitting in deep midfield, the England international failed to look up when deciding to play the ball back to Michel Vorm. He was being closed down by Jordan Henderson, such a revitalised force of late. Shelvey flicked the ball with the outside of his boot towards the penalty area, failing to spot Sturridge lurking. He should have been more aware. Sturridge has just received his award for Player of the Month for August. He had been in prolific form. His absence with a thigh injury had been bemoaned by the England manager, Roy Hodgson. He seized on Shelvey's gift and calmly placed the ball past Vorm. The game could have dipped after such an electric, if eccentric start, but it continued to fizz. Liverpool were terrific, Philippe Coutinho was darting all around, creating trouble. Moses was excellent, raiding down the left, causing constant problems for Angel Rangel and Nathan Dyer.

Swansea had Michu scheming between the lines, looking to link with Wilfried Bony. Following a persistent run by Ben Davies, Michu found Bony who fired between Sakho's legs but Mignolet was equal to the task. Swansea refused to be daunted by any distinguished names coming there. Ashley Williams barged into Gerrard.

Yet Liverpool had the upper hand. Henderson dummied past Davies, slipped the ball behind Swansea's defence to Coutinho but Chico Flores raced across to clear. From Gerrard's corner, Andre Wisdom headed over. Liverpool's tempo was good, their passing crisp and accurate and their threat persistent.

Moses, looking a smart piece of loan business by Brendan Rodgers, wriggled in from the touchline, beating Rangel and Dyer before dinking in across perfectly measured for Sturridge. The England striker met the ball powerfully, sending a down-ward header too close to Vorm, who managed to push it away.

Michu briefly vented his frustration, shouting at his team-mates to raise their tempo. It seemed to work. Swansea attacked quickly. The tall Sakho leapt up to head clear, denying Bony a free run at goal. Michu and Bony then combined, forcing Mignolet into a good save.

Then Shelvey suffered his second aberration, presenting possession this time to Moses, who sped down the inside-left channel before firing the ball low past Vorm. Swansea almost equalised before the break but Mignolet pushed out Dyer's shot and Skrtel put in a marvellous sliding tackle to prevent Bony turning in the loose ball. The Opta stats wizards reported that this was the first Premier League game this season in which there were more than two goals before the interval. The Sky camera almost manmarked a crestfallen Shelvey as he trudged to the tunnel. Shelvey was to have some form of release at the Liberty after the hour. But Liverpool could have added to their lead before Shelvey set up Michu's equaliser. Henderson went close, so did Wisdom.

Lucas and Shelvey were then cautioned for a contretemps when Liverpool's Brazilian seemed the guiltier party.

Shelvey's next involvement was far more positive, cleverly flicking a header into the path of Michu, who scored his first Premier League goal of the season with a confident strike past Mignolet. Shelvey ran to the Swansea fans, his face lit up with relief. With 18 minutes remaining, Shelvey almost gave Swansea the lead with a low shot that Mignolet smothered. Liverpool had lost Coutinho, who came off worse when baulked by Williams. Iago Aspas had come on but failed to impress, particularly wasting some superb work by Jose Enrique down the left. Yet Swansea were far more assertive, pushing Liverpool back. Laudrup's full-backs, Davies and Rangel, were typically positive, pushing high up the pitch.

Rangel never gave up on one ball, heading it back across and forcing Mignolet into a smart catch. Alejandro Pozuelo had come on in midfield and was carrying the ball forward. Jonathan de Guzman, who had replaced Dyer, shot just over.

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Rodgers tried to regain the initiative. Raheem Sterling came on for the tiring Moses, who departed to warm applause from the Liverpool fans. Swansea were playing the ball around well. Rangel was terrific, constantly pushing up, turning away from Sterling and winning a free-kick 25 yards out. Davies lined the ball up but De Guzman took it, sending it flying goalwards. Mignolet has made some good saves already in his short Liverpool career and this was particularly special, the keeper throwing himself to his left to palm the ball away. Sakho had a mixed debut, losing the ball to Michu late on but then doing brilliantly to dispossess the Spaniard. Swansea looked by the far more likely to score as Liverpool faded, although Flores made a magnificent interception to stop Aspas, leaving Leyton Orient with the only 100 per cent record in the country. Unbeaten and top, but long way short of 1991 vintage. Even if Liverpool had won their fourth game in a row last night, their achievement would have paled in comparison with their start to the 1990-91 season. In fact, Liverpool won their first eight games, thanks to goals aplenty from their stars at the time Ian Rush, John Barnes and Peter Beardsley. After a first win, 3-1 at newly promoted Sheffield United, they went on to beat Nottingham Forest 2-0, Aston Villa 2-1 and Wimbledon 2-1. Barnes (pictured) scored in 3 out of 4 matches. The season saw Liverpool finish second to Arsenal with Rush the top goalscorer.

Players to score four in season's first four games

When Daniel Sturridge scored for Liverpool last night, he became the ninth player in Premier League history to score in the first four games of the season behind Branko Strupar (Derby, 2000-01)

Jose Antonio Reyes (Arsenal, 2004-05),
 Darren Bent (Charlton, 2005-06)
 Ruud van Nistelrooy (Man Utd, 2005-06)
 Bobby Zamora (West Ham, 2006-07)
 Emmanuel Adebayor (Man City, 2009-10)
 Wayne Rooney (Man Utd, 2011-12)
 Olivier Giroud (Arsenal, 2013-14)



Redemption for Shelvey and Swansea

Liverpool moved back to the top of the Premier League as they maintained their unbeaten run last night, but it was one of their former players who grabbed the headlines.

Jonjo Shelvey will not ever forget his first game against his old club after scoring the first goal of the game and having a part in the three others. He simply could not keep out of the action and, to add to it all, he also picked up a yellow card. There must have been times during the game when the 21-year-old England international wished the ground had opened and swallowed him up, but he stuck at it to the bitter end and emerged with top marks for character and endurance. It was always going to be an emotional evening for Shelvey playing against both his former club, Liverpool, and his mentor, Steven Gerrard. But nobody could have scripted his first three minutes of the game - one minute undiluted joy, the next excruciating agony.

The [pounds sterling]5m Swansea midfielder could not believe his luck when a poor headed clearance by Jordan Henderson in the third minute reached him 30 yards out. His first touch, an attempted shot, was nothing to write home about, but he then regathered, went forward and eventually shot left-footed past Simon Mignolet in the Liverpool goal.

It was the first goal they had conceded in 419 Premier League minutes this season. The clock showed one minute, 27 seconds of the game had gone and Shelvey and Swansea were off to a dream start. But not for long.

A mere 99 seconds later Daniel Sturridge popped up to score his fourth goal of the season after a horrendous, blind back pass to nobody from Shelvey. Sturridge, fully fit again after missing England's games with a thigh injury, became the first Liverpool player to score in the first four Premier League games of a season. It was also his 12th goal in his last 10 club outings.

Things calmed down a bit after that blistering start, although the astute Philippe Coutinho forced goalkeeper Michel Vorm into action with his shot from the edge of the area, and then Swansea record signing Wilfried Bony sent Mignolet diving full length to his left to stop a stinging shot.

Sturridge had a second gilt-edged chance to score when he lost his marker five yards out from goal, but his free header from Victor Moses' cross was well beaten away by Vorm.

Liverpool, for whom Gerrard was making his 400th appearance as captain in his 635th game for the club, looked the more incisive on the break, but when the ball got to Michu and Bony up front in Michael Laudrup's new 4-4-2 formation the alarm bells began to ring for the visitors.

But the panic came in the home defence on 36 minutes when Shelvey once again passed to a red shirt rather than a white one. This time the recipient was Moses, who ran from halfway to the arc of the penalty box as Flores backed off him before shooting confidently past Vorm.

Cue another frantic few minutes as first Michu and then Nathan Dyer forced Mignolet into important saves. The latter almost fell into the path of Bony and it took a courageous full-length lunge from Martin Skrtel to deny the home striker an equaliser two minutes after his side had gone behind.

The second half got off to a lively start with two Gerrard free-kicks causing difficulties in the home defence, the latter forcing Vorm to save at the foot of his left hand post. Laudrup introduced Jonathan de Guzman to improve his midfield at the start of the second half and he certainly added some extra bite. As the exchanges heated up so Shelvey's night took another turn for the worse with an off-the-ball spat with Lucas that earned both of them yellow cards.

Ashley Williams, Henderson and Andre Wisdom soon followed into the referee's book and the temperature was raised once again when Leon Britton chipped through for Shelvey to claim his third assist of the game as he headed into the path of Michu, who hammered home the equaliser in the 63rd minute.

The Liverpool manager, Brendan Rodgers, knew his side would be in for a tough time at the home of his former club, and he also knew that a win or a draw would take his team back to the top of the Premier League.

Swansea finished the stronger and a De Guzman free-kick forced Mignolet into another full-length save with three minutes left to play. Rodgers had thrown on Raheem Sterling with 10 minutes left to try to regain some initiative in the Swansea half of the field, but the last 20 minutes were an ever-increasing white tide of aggression.

Man of the match Shelvey. Match rating 9/10.
 Possession: Swansea 56% Liverpool 44%.
 Attempts on target: Swansea 9 Liverpool 5.
 Referee M Oliver (Northumberland). Att 22,500.



SHELVEY HELPS KOP TO TOP OF THE PREM

TOP of the league. Still unbeaten and with Luis Suarez back next week. Yet while Liverpool have plenty to be pleased about, it was hard to leave the Liberty making a case for them to still be on the summit four games from the end of the season.

On a night that became all about one man, Brendan Rodgers saw just what he is trying to build at Anfield - but also the fault lines that make it a work in progress. Jonjo Shelvey had hoped to make an impact for Liverpool this season. Instead, a goal and three assists - two at the wrong end - made the England midfielder central to everything that happened.

After putting Swansea ahead from the first move of the match, Shelvey then inadvertently teed up Daniel Sturridge, for his 17th goal in just 21 Liverpool appearances, then Victor Moses. A fourth straight win looked in Liverpool's reach, their passing a joy to watch at times.

But missing three first-choice defenders, the second string were exposed when Shelvey intervened again, nodding down for Michu to secure Michael Laudrup's men a point. And where Liverpool might have been expected to go for the win, they ended hanging on under a bombardment. Going from hero to villain is a cliché. But to complete the transformation within minutes of the kick-off is remarkable. When Angel Rangel's cross was not properly cleared, Shelvey's initial air-shot brought hoots of derision from the travelling fans. But Shelvey reacted when Liverpool did not, dancing around Mamadou Sakho - making his debut after Rodgers lost Daniel Agger to a training knock - before curling home after Martin Skrtel had blocked his initial effort. It was the first goal Liverpool had conceded in the league this season, yet almost instantly Shelvey gifted his old colleagues a leveller. Jordan Henderson was closing in but Shelvey simply did not look as he flicked the ball back towards keeper Michel Vorm. Sturridge, so alert, needed no second invitation to slide home his sixth goal of the season. The chances kept coming. Simon Mignolet denied Wilfried Bony after the Ivorian's shot took a nick off Sakho, Sturridge fired over when released by Steven Gerrard, captaining Liverpool for the 400th time. 6/1 Moses almost set up Henderson before his skill should have brought a second goal for Sturridge.

The on-loan forward delivered the ball on a plate for the England striker, whose downward header was kicked away by Vorm. Shelvey's world fell in again as he gifted the ball to Moses and the winger reached the edge of the box before slipping past the wrong-footed Vorm. Mignolet got lucky when Skrtel bailed him out as Bony was odds-on to convert after the keeper failed to hold Nathan Dyer's effort. Shelvey, perhaps surprisingly, survived the interval, Dyer making way for Jonathan de Guzman and within eight minutes Liverpool might have finished it. Wayne Routledge was adjudged, to have fouled Lucas but Swansea left Henderson unmarked from Gerrard's free-kick, Vorm just turning Wisdom's side-footer against the post. Tempers were fraying, Coutinho forced off following a poor challenge by Ashley Williams, Shelvey and Lucas squaring up.

Shelvey was smiling again after 64 minutes. Leon Britton spotted his run and while Michu did not catch full hold of the knock-down, it squirmed through Mignolet's grasp.

Now it was there to win - and only Swansea really wanted it. But Liverpool survived. Just.

SWANSEA: Vorm 7, Rangel 5, Chico 6, Williams 5, Davies 5, Shelvey 6, Britton 6, Dyer 5 (De Guzman 46, 7), Michu 7, Routledge 6, Bony 6 (Pozuela, 66, 6) \

LIVERPOOL: Mignolet 6, Wisdom 6 (Toure 69, 6), Skrtel 7, Sakho 6, Enrique 5, Gerrard 7, Lucas 7, Henderson 7, Coutinho 8 (Aspas 54, 6), Moses 8 (Sterling 81), Sturridge 7 REF: Michael Oliver ATT: 20,752

SWANSEA v LIVERPOOL MATCH STATS 59% BALL POSSESSION 41% 9 SHOTS ON TARGET 5 7 SHOTS OFF TARGET 5 3 CORNERS 71 OFFSIDE 28 FOULS 10 2 0 CARDS 30 MAN OF THE MATCH VICTOR MOSES

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Rollercoaster evening sees Liverpool go top with 2-2 Swansea draw
 Liverpool FC didn't know whether to curse Jonjo Shelvey or thank him after they left South Wales with a share of the spoils. Brendan Rodgers' side returned to the top of the Premier League table but their perfect start to the campaign was ended on an eventful night at the Liberty Stadium. The Reds were left clinging on for a point towards the end of an enthralling contest in which Shelvey took centre stage. It was a rollercoaster evening for the former Liverpool midfielder who played a part in all four goals. Shelvey fired Swansea City in front early on but then committed two woeful blunders which allowed Daniel Sturridge and debutant Victor Moses to put the Reds 2-1 up. Liverpool were on the brink of celebrating starting a league campaign with four successive wins for the first time in 23 years, but Rodgers was denied the victory he craved on his return to the club he guided into the top flight. Starting like a train and then running out of steam has been a trait of all the Reds' performances so far this term and so it proved again. Against Aston Villa and Manchester United the Reds got away with sitting back and dropping deeper as they looked to retain their narrow advantage. But on this occasion they were punished. Shelvey created an equaliser for Michu midway through the second half and only some desperate defending and expert goalkeeping from Simon Mignolet denied the Swans a winner.

Rodgers made three changes from the side which had beaten United a fortnight earlier. There was a surprise debut for new centre-back Mamadou Sakho after vice-captain Daniel Agger was ruled out with a knock picked up in training on Sunday. The £15million France international started alongside the impressive Martin Skrtel with Kolo Toure having to settle for a place among the substitutes following his recovery from a groin injury.

Andre Wisdom got the nod to replace the injured Glen Johnson at right-back and the other switch was tactical as Moses was preferred to Iago Aspas, who dropped to the bench. Liverpool found themselves reunited with Shelvey – two months after he left for Swansea in a £5million deal. He was in the thick of it during a manic start to the contest which perfectly encapsulated his three years at Anfield. Inside two minutes came the demonstration of his undoubted ability. As he latched on to Jordan Henderson's defensive header, Shelvey expertly turned away from Sakho and burst into the penalty area. His initial strike was blocked by Skrtel but the ball came back to him and he kept his cool to curl a left-footer beyond Mignolet. It was the first league goal Liverpool had conceded in more than seven hours of football dating back to May. Shelvey's celebrations were decidedly low key and his show of respect to the Reds increased barely 60 seconds later as he gifted his former club an equaliser.

Under no pressure 25 yards out, Shelvey opted to blindly play a backpass in the direction of Michel Vorm. Sturridge pounced and ruthlessly swept his shot beyond the keeper.

It was classic Shelvey – a talented player with great potential but one prone to leaving his brain at home. Having swiftly made the transition from hero to zero, he smacked himself in the head in frustration.

In gleefully accepting the gift, Sturridge became only the fourth Liverpool player ever to score in the opening four league games of a season. He took his place in the history books alongside Sam Raybould (1900), Kenny Dalglish (1978) and John Aldridge (1987). The tone had been set for a frenetic opening 45 minutes as both forward lines caused plenty of problems. The inclusion of Moses on the left allowed Coutinho to operate in his favoured central role and the little Brazilian showed flashes of his class. Liverpool were slick and creative as Coutinho curled a shot straight at Vorm, Sturridge fired over from a tight angle and Henderson's goal-bound strike was blocked by Ben Davies.

After a quiet opening, Moses came to life and did brilliantly to wriggle away from Angel Rangel and Nathan Dyer wide on the left. His inviting cross put it on a plate for Sturridge but the in-form striker failed to beat Vorm from four yards.

At the other end there were plenty of scares. Sakho was dominant in the air but his lack of match fitness was exposed as he was caught napping on occasions.

Wilfried Bony stung Mignolet's palms from 20 yards and then the Swans' £12million summer signing was thwarted again after linking up with Michu.

When Bony swept Davies' inviting cross over the bar, the pressure was building but once again Shelvey, who had been lucky to escape a booking for upending Coutinho, delivered for Liverpool. Nine minutes before the break Shelvey attempted an ambitious cross-field pass but only succeeded in finding Moses.

The Swans were exposed and the Nigeria international surged forward. Chico Flores backed off and the on-loan winger punished the hosts as he fired clinically into the bottom corner. There is something about the Liberty Stadium which brings out the best in Moses – his only Premier League goal for Chelsea last season came against the Swans and he scored for Crystal Palace on the same ground four years ago. Having gone in front, only a gritty rearguard action protected the Reds' lead prior to the interval.

Mignolet had to be alert to parry away Michu's piledriver and when the keeper couldn't hold Dyer's effort, it took a stunning last-ditch tackle from Skrtel to somehow prevent Bony from finding the net. Early in the second half Ashley Williams was yellow carded for a reckless challenge on Coutinho. The Brazilian tried to play on after treatment but had to admit defeat soon after as he went off

holding his shoulder and Aspas replaced him.

Tempers flared as Lucas Leiva and Shelvey squared up to each other off the ball and both went into the book. Wisdom shot tamely at Vorm and Gerrard's volley was blocked by Williams as the Reds threatened to add to their tally. However, from a position of relative control they eased off and conceded a 64th-minute equaliser. There was redemption for Shelvey as he expertly nodded Leon Britton's lofted pass into the path of Michu who got ahead of Wisdom to sweep the ball past Mignolet. Wisdom made way for Toure but it was the home side, energised by the goal, who looked the more likely to find a winner. Liverpool looked tired and were second best as Michu volleyed wide before substitute Jonathan de Guzman blazed over. Raheem Sterling replaced Moses but the Swans' grip on proceedings remained with Mignolet having to claw De Guzman's curling free-kick past the post. Sakho made a vital tackle to thwart Michu late on and then at the other end Flores dispossessed Aspas before he could pull the trigger. The final whistle brought relief for Liverpool – momentum has been maintained but there are improvements to be made.

SWANSEA (4-2-3-1): Vorm, Rangel, Williams, Chico, Davies, Britton, Shelvey, Dyer (de Guzman 45), Michu, Routledge, Bony (Pozuelo 66). Not used: Tremmel, Amat, Tiendalli, Canas, Vazquez.

LIVERPOOL (4-2-3-1): Mignolet, Wisdom (Toure 69), Skrtel, Sakho, Enrique, Lucas, Gerrard, Henderson, Coutinho (Aspas 54), Moses (Sterling 81), Sturridge. Not used: Jones, Kelly, Alberto, Ibe.

GOALS: Shelvey 2, Sturridge 4, Moses 36, Michu 64,

BOOKINGS: Williams, Shelvey, Lucas, Henderson, Wisdom.

REFEREE: Michael Oliver

ATTENDANCE: 20,752



Blast from the past: Shelvey helps end Liverpool's perfect start in 2-2 draw

Just when Liverpool FC were starting to look to the future, along came a reminder from their recent past to help bring an end to their perfect start to the season. Jonjo Shelvey may have been deemed surplus to requirements by Brendan Rodgers during the summer. But, on the night the Anfield manager handed debuts to new signings Mamadou Sakho and Victor Moses, it was his former player who commanded centre stage on a crazy night as Liverpool were held to an enthralling 2-2 draw at Swansea City. Shelvey, who joined the Welsh side for £5million, scored once and then contrived to gift Liverpool two goals before turning provider for his own team to quash the visitors' hopes of a fourth successive Premier League victory. Nevertheless, the point was enough to maintain Liverpool's unbeaten record and send them back to the top of the embryonic table for the first time at this stage of a season since 2007.

This, though, was an unconvincing display from Rodgers' side, their reshuffled defence living dangerously in the face of intense Swansea pressure.

Barely two minutes had gone when Shelvey shot Swansea into the lead, only for his slack backpass to almost instantly hand Daniel Sturridge the opportunity to score his 17th goal in 21 appearances for Liverpool. Another Shelvey error then allowed Moses to thump home a debut goal nine minutes before the break, although the Swansea man atoned by teeing up Michu for the equaliser on 64 minutes. Certainly, new £18million signing Sakho may have anticipated a less fraught initiation to Premier League football following his move from Paris Saint-Germain on transfer deadline day earlier this month.

But with Daniel Agger injured and the returning Kolo Toure benched, the France international was handed a starting role alongside Martin Skrtel at centre-back.

Unsurprisingly, Sakho experienced some nervy moments, but demonstrated enough to suggest he won't be overawed by the physical challenge of English football. He will also benefit from playing in a more settled backline. Andre Wisdom's inclusion at right-back for the absent Glen Johnson meant Liverpool began last night without three of the back four that started the season.

At times it showed. But the new-look defence had barely time to become accustomed to each other when the game started with a crazy four-minute spell that encapsulated Shelvey's yoyo Anfield career.

In the second minute, with Liverpool failing to properly clear their lines, the midfielder mishit his shot but regained possession to advance beyond Sakho and, after the ball again fell at his feet following Skrtel's block, he curled a neat finish beyond Simon Mignolet. Yet 99 seconds later, a mindless backpass from Shelvey was directed straight to Sturridge inside the area, the unmarked striker free to turn and shoot beyond the exposed Swansea goalkeeper Michel Vorm.

Sturridge's goal made him the only the fourth player in Liverpool's history to score in each of the opening four games and the first to achieve such a feat since John Aldridge in 1987. The frenetic start set the tone for an enthralling end-to-end first half. Mignolet did well to hold a shot from Wilfried Bony that deflected off Sakho, while Sturridge shot high and wide having been released down the inside left channel by Steven Gerrard, skipping Liverpool for the 400th time last night. Moses gradually grew into the game, and midway through the half his break down the left ended with Jordan Henderson firing a shot blocked by Swansea left-back Ben Davies.

And two minutes later the Nigerian brilliantly danced his way down the left beyond Angel Rangel and Nathan Dyer before crossing for Sturridge who, less

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than six yards out, saw his header turned behind brilliantly by Vorm. Moses showed his team-mate how it should be done on 36 minutes, although it was another nightmare for Shelvey whose ambitious square pass was intercepted by the Liverpool winger who advanced to the edge of the area and, with Chico Flores unwisely retreating, shot into the bottom corner from 20 yards. Vorm didn't move. Moses must like the Liberty Stadium, having scored his only Premier League goal for Chelsea here last season. He also netted for former club Crystal Palace on this ground. Swansea, though, were not without their chances. Bony and Michu – forming a threatening partnership – combined well to cut through the Liverpool defence before the former's shot was repelled by Mignolet, but the goalkeeper was indebted to Skrtel minutes before the break to keep the visitors ahead. Mignolet found Dyer's angled drive too hot to handle and, as Bony prepared to slide the ball into the empty net, Skrtel produced a fantastic sliding challenge to clear the danger. The game was no less open after the interval. A deep Gerrard free-kick found Henderson at the far post, whose ball back across goal was eventually prodded towards then net by Wisdom only for a stretching Vorm to claim at the second attempt. But Swansea were level in the 64th minute, with Shelvey inevitably involved. Racing from deep to meet Leon Britton's long ball into the area, the midfielder flicked on for Michu to get in front of Wisdom and clip home into the bottom corner. Swansea finished the stronger as Liverpool unwisely retreated, and Mignolet was required to turn behind a free-kick from Jonathan de Guzman. But it required a tackle from Chico to deny substitute Iago Aspas earning Liverpool an unlikely win in the very last action of an absorbing encounter.

MAN OF THE MATCH. Victor Moses. A lively first outing for the Nigerian winger **SWANSEA CITY (4-2-3-1):** Vorm; Rangel, Williams, Chico, Davies; Britton, Shelvey; Dyer (de Guzman 46), Michu, Routledge; Bony (Pozuelo 66). Subs: Tremmel, Amat, Tiendalli, Canas, Vazquez. **BOOKINGS:** Williams (foul) and Shelvey (unsporting behaviour).

LIVERPOOL (4-2-3-1): Mignolet; Wisdom (Toure 69), Skrtel, Sakho, Enrique; Lucas, Gerrard; Henderson, Coutinho (Aspas 55), Moses (Sterling 81); Sturridge. Subs: Jones, Alberto, Ibe, Kelly. **BOOKING:** Lucas (unsporting behaviour) and Henderson and Wisdom (both fouls).

REFEREE: Michael Oliver.

this is South Wales

From the
Evening Post LLANELLI STAR
Carmarthen Journal

JONJO Shelvey took centre stage as Swansea City drew 2-2 with Liverpool at the Liberty.

The midfielder scored a goal in the second minute against his former club, but just 99 seconds later played a loose backpass to gift Daniel Sturridge an equaliser. Jonjo Shelvey, who enjoyed an interesting night, celebrates his goal with his team-mates. Shelvey then gave away possession to Victor Moses, who put the visitors ahead at the interval.

He might have been sent off soon after the restart after appearing to raise his hands in an altercation with Lucas Leiva, but was only booked.

And to complete his contribution, the 21-year-old started a move that culminated in him heading down for Michu to sweep home an equaliser.

The game was only 88 seconds old when Jordan Henderson tried to head clear an Angel Rangel cross and the ball fell to Shelvey. His effort was blocked by Martin Skrtel before the ball cannoned back and Shelvey was able to side-foot into the far corner.

But ecstasy turned to agony less than two minutes later as Shelvey played a careless backpass that Sturridge pounced on to sweep home.

Chances fell to both sides in the first half, though Liverpool looked the more dangerous and went in front eight minutes before the interval.

A sloppy Shelvey pass was intercepted by Moses, who raced in from halfway and stroked past Vorm and into the bottom corner. Swansea were better in the second period and secured the draw they deserved.

With 64 minutes on the clock, the excellent Leon Britton lofted a ball forward that Shelvey headed into the path of Michu.

And last season's top scorer made no mistake, slotting into the net for Swansea to claim a point.



Swansea midfielder Jonjo Shelvey had a hand in all four goals as his old club Liverpool moved back to the top of the Premier League with an exciting draw. The hosts led after 87 seconds when Shelvey curled into the bottom corner. But his slack backpass allowed in-form Liverpool striker Daniel Sturridge to fire in less than two minutes later.

Reds debutant Victor Moses steered in after another mistake from Shelvey, who then headed the ball on for Michu to equalise and end the Reds' 100% start. The Spaniard's first Premier League goal of the new season provided the final twist in an entertaining game at the Liberty Stadium.

Liverpool might have dropped their first points this season, but the draw still allowed them to leapfrog Arsenal and Tottenham to the top of the Premier League.

Swansea are 13th after taking four points from their opening four matches. It was certainly an evening to remember for England Under-21 international Shelvey, who left Anfield for the south Wales club in the summer.

The £5m signing put the Swans ahead when he left new Reds defender Mamadou Sakho flat-footed to calmly stroke a left-foot effort past goalkeeper Simon Mignolet.

Liverpool had not previously conceded in the Premier League and they were gifted a way back into the game little over 100 seconds later by Shelvey.

His careless pass back towards goalkeeper Michel Vorm was seized upon by Sturridge, who netted his fourth top-flight goal of the season with a clinical finish. The Reds dominated the opening half hour as the vibrant trio of Moses, Philippe Coutinho and Sturridge pulled apart the Swansea defence with pace and precision. And they should have doubled their advantage when Moses and Sturridge combined.

On-loan Chelsea winger Moses surged past two defenders near the left corner flag and dinked in a perfectly weighted cross towards an unmarked Sturridge. The England striker seemed certain to score but his header was directed too close to Vorm, who made a magnificent save.

Shortly before half-time, they did take a deserved lead. Shelvey sloppily handed possession to Moses, who drove at the backpedalling Swansea defence before accurately shooting into the bottom corner from the edge of the penalty area. Victory would have given Liverpool their best start to a season since 1990-91 and for the opening hour they seemed firmly on course to achieve that.

But Coutinho's departure early in the second half with a shoulder injury following a robust challenge from Swans skipper Ashley Williams disrupted their fluency. Swansea, playing the first of seven games in 21 days, had not created any clear-cut second-half chances before Michu's leveller, but they had been encouraged to press forward by Liverpool's willingness to sit back on their lead.

They were rewarded when Shelvey flicked a right-wing cross into the path of Michu, who swept a first-time shot beyond Mignolet.

The leveller switched the momentum of the match firmly in Swansea's favour and, as the encounter moved into the closing stages, Michael Laudrup's men looked the likeliest to grab a dramatic winner.

Shelvey sent a low free-kick fizzing into the arms of Mignolet, before substitute Jonathan de Guzman twice went close.

Swansea manager Michael Laudrup:

"We had to perform better in the second half and the boys did a good job.

"We got the equaliser, we could have won the game but I'm pleased with the result after all."

Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers:

"I thought for the first 65 minutes we were very good. We showed incredible character to get back level so soon after they scored.

"I was disappointed with their second goal and then the momentum changed for the last 25 minutes and we had to show character and resilience.

"But we showed tonight our game is getting better and we have the character to get a lot of results."

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90:00+5:21 Full time The referee blows the whistle to end the game.

90:00+5:16 Clearance made by Chico.
 90:00+4:53 Mamadou Sakho manages to make a clearance.
 90:00+4:51 The ball is delivered by Wayne Routledge.
 90:00+4:28 Ashley Williams makes a clearance.
 90:00+4:11 Shot by Miguel Michu went wide right of the post. Simon Mignolet catches the ball.
 90:00+1:21 Raheem Sterling makes a clearance.
 90:00+1:16 Mamadou Sakho manages to make a clearance.
 89:39 Clearance made by Jordan Henderson.
 89:10 Clearance made by Steven Gerrard.
 88:58 Martin Skrtel manages to make a clearance.
 88:51 Clearance made by Martin Skrtel.
 87:58 Shot by Jonathan de Guzman missed to the right of the target.
 87:57 Mamadou Sakho makes a clearance.
 87:55 The ball is delivered by Wayne Routledge.
 87:31 The ball is crossed by Jonjo Shelvey.
 87:21 Corner taken by Ben Davies from the right by-line.
 86:59 Jonathan de Guzman has a direct shot on goal from the free kick. Simon Mignolet parries the ball away.
 86:13 Raheem Sterling challenges Angel Rangel unfairly and gives away a free kick.
 86:08 Leiva Lucas manages to make a clearance.
 86:06 Centre by Jonathan de Guzman.
 85:43 Corner taken by Wayne Routledge.
 85:14 Clearance made by Jordan Henderson.
 85:13 Centre by Wayne Routledge.
 83:17 Mamadou Sakho manages to make a clearance.
 83:14 Jonjo Shelvey produces a cross.
 82:17 Jonathan de Guzman has an effort at goal and missed to the right of the target.
 82:00 Free kick taken by Ben Davies.
 81:50 Foul by Kolo Toure on Wayne Routledge, free kick awarded.
 81:28 Strike on goal comes in from Steven Gerrard from the free kick and goes over the bar.
 81:01 Angel Rangel challenges Raheem Sterling unfairly and gives away a free kick.
 80:39 Clearance made by Ashley Williams.
 80:34 Free kick taken by Simon Mignolet.
 80:10 Substitution Victor Moses goes off and Raheem Sterling comes on.
 79:49 Wayne Routledge gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Iago Aspas.
 79:45 Clearance made by Mamadou Sakho.
 79:42 Corner taken by Jonjo Shelvey.
 79:23 Kolo Toure makes a clearance.
 79:21 Wayne Routledge delivers the ball.
 78:55 Clearance by Martin Skrtel.
 78:49 Martin Skrtel manages to make a clearance.
 78:47 Wayne Routledge produces a cross.
 78:30 Clearance made by Leiva Lucas.
 77:23 Free kick taken by Sanchez Jose Enrique.
 77:08 Alejandro Pozuelo concedes a free kick for a foul on Victor Moses.
 76:46 The ball is delivered by Jonathan de Guzman.
 75:21 Angel Rangel restarts play with the free kick.
 75:04 Victor Moses challenges Leon Britton unfairly and gives away a free kick.
 74:22 Shot by Miguel Michu went wide left of the target.
 74:21 Sanchez Jose Enrique makes a clearance.
 74:07 Martin Skrtel makes a clearance.
 73:13 Clearance made by Mamadou Sakho.
 73:12 A cross is delivered by Alejandro Pozuelo.
 72:12 Jonjo Shelvey has an effort direct from the free kick. Simon Mignolet makes a block.
 72:11 Jonathan de Guzman restarts play with the free kick.
 71:24 Jonathan de Guzman fouled by Leiva Lucas, the ref awards a free kick.
 71:08 Free kick taken by Chico Chico.
 71:01 Jonathan de Guzman fouled by Steven Gerrard, the ref awards a free kick.
 69:58 Clearance by Martin Skrtel.
 69:09 Chico Chico takes the free kick.
 68:58 Substitution Liverpool makes a substitution, with Kolo Toure coming on for Andre Wisdom.
 68:35 The assistant referee flags for offside against Daniel Sturridge.
 68:20 Martin Skrtel manages to make a clearance.
 68:12 Ashley Williams manages to make a clearance.
 67:00 Header by Miguel Michu misses right.
 66:59 Jonathan de Guzman produces a cross.
 66:04 Free kick taken by Ben Davies.
 65:52 Substitution Alejandro Pozuelo replaces Wilfried Bony.
 65:16 Booking
 65:16 Andre Wisdom booked.
 65:06 Andre Wisdom gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Ben Davies.
 63:20 Jonjo Shelvey provided the assist for the goal.
 63:20 Goal scored Goal! - Miguel Michu - Swansea 2 - 2 Liverpool Miguel Michu grabs a goal with a right foot finish. Swansea 2-2 Liverpool.
 62:55 Free kick taken by Ashley Williams.
 62:39 Daniel Sturridge is ruled offside.
 62:08 Clearance by Wilfried Bony.
 62:06 Corner taken by Steven Gerrard from the right by-line.
 61:39 Clearance made by Ashley Williams.
 61:35 Steven Gerrard takes the chance to get an effort at goal. Blocked by Ashley

Williams.

61:34 Ashley Williams manages to make a clearance.
 61:33 A cross is delivered by Sanchez Jose Enrique.
 61:05 Wayne Routledge delivers the ball.
 60:40 Clearance by Mamadou Sakho.
 60:26 Jonjo Shelvey takes the free kick.
 60:08 Booking
 60:08 Jordan Henderson is cautioned by the ref for unsporting behaviour.
 60:04 Jordan Henderson gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Ben Davies.
 59:33 Ashley Williams makes a clearance.
 59:29 Ashley Williams manages to make a clearance.
 59:29 The ball is delivered by Iago Aspas.
 56:17 Free kick taken by Leon Britton.
 55:59 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Ashley Williams by Iago Aspas.
 55:36 Booking
 55:36 Leiva Lucas is shown a yellow card.
 55:32 Booking
 55:32 Jonjo Shelvey is shown a yellow card for unsporting behaviour.
 54:10 Substitution Iago Aspas is brought on as a substitute for Philippe Coutinho.
 52:59 Martin Skrtel makes a clearance.
 52:19 Shot by Andre Wisdom. Michel Vorm makes a block.
 52:18 Jordan Henderson takes a shot and went wide of the right hand upright.
 52:18 Ashley Williams makes a clearance.
 52:15 Free kick crossed by Steven Gerrard.
 51:37 Wayne Routledge concedes a free kick for a foul on Leiva Lucas.
 51:32 Wilfried Bony manages to make a clearance.
 51:30 Corner from the left by-line taken by Steven Gerrard.
 51:04 Chico manages to make a clearance.
 51:03 Free kick crossed by Steven Gerrard.
 49:07 Booking
 49:07 Ashley Williams shown a yellow card.
 48:52 Unfair challenge on Philippe Coutinho by Ashley Williams results in a free kick.
 48:23 Clearance made by Ashley Williams.
 48:06 Free kick taken by Mamadou Sakho.
 47:54 Wilfried Bony handles the ball and concedes a free kick.
 47:44 Chico manages to make a clearance.
 46:40 Ben Davies takes the free kick.
 46:24 Andre Wisdom concedes a free kick for a foul on Jonathan de Guzman.
 45:45 Centre by Angel Rangel.
 45:26 Andre Wisdom makes a clearance.
 45:01 The referee blows the whistle to start the second half.
 45:01 Substitution Swansea makes a substitution, with Jonathan de Guzman coming on for Nathan Dyer.
 45:00+2:02 Half time The referee calls an end to the first half.
 45:00+1:59 Martin Skrtel makes a clearance.
 45:00+1:11 Chico makes a clearance.
 45:00+0:11 A cross is delivered by Wilfried Bony.
 44:59 Andre Wisdom manages to make a clearance.
 43:00 Clearance by Angel Rangel.
 42:27 A cross is delivered by Angel Rangel.
 42:24 Miguel Michu takes a shot. Blocked by Martin Skrtel.
 40:04 Clearance by Andre Wisdom.
 40:00 Angel Rangel sends in a cross.
 38:05 Clearance made by Martin Skrtel.
 37:59 Nathan Dyer takes a shot. Simon Mignolet parries the ball but the danger is not over.
 37:57 Mamadou Sakho makes a clearance.
 37:55 Clearance by Andre Wisdom.
 36:58 Martin Skrtel manages to make a clearance.
 36:53 Miguel Michu has an effort at goal. Parried by Simon Mignolet back into danger.
 35:55 Goal scored Goal! - Victor Moses - Swansea 1 - 2 Liverpool Victor Moses slots the ball right footed into the goal. Swansea 1-2 Liverpool.
 35:09 Clearance by Ashley Williams.
 34:58 Mamadou Sakho manages to make a clearance.
 34:17 Clearance made by Mamadou Sakho.
 34:05 Free kick taken by Simon Mignolet.
 33:39 Wilfried Bony is flagged offside by the assistant referee.
 33:18 Clearance made by Jordan Henderson.
 33:15 The ball is swung over by Ben Davies.
 32:01 Shot by Wilfried Bony missed to the left of the target.
 31:59 The ball is crossed by Ben Davies.
 29:28 Ashley Williams makes a clearance.
 29:01 Wilfried Bony has an effort at goal. Simon Mignolet catches the ball.
 28:42 Clearance by Mamadou Sakho.
 28:40 Jonjo Shelvey crosses the ball.
 28:32 Clearance by Sanchez Jose Enrique.
 28:30 Clearance by Mamadou Sakho.
 28:28 Wayne Routledge produces a cross.
 28:19 Jordan Henderson manages to make a clearance.
 28:14 A cross is delivered by Nathan Dyer.
 27:21 Angel Rangel makes a clearance.
 26:35 Ben Davies produces a cross.
 24:53 Philippe Coutinho takes the chance to get an effort at goal and missed to the left of the goal.
 24:53 Clearance made by Wilfried Bony.

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Opposition: Swansea City

Competition: League

BBC

Times

Telegraph

Echo

Guardian

Mirror

Post

Independent

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24:51 Victor Moses crosses the ball.
24:45 Ben Davies makes a clearance.
24:42 The ball is sent over by Steven Gerrard.
24:32 Clearance by Miguel Michu.
24:29 Corner taken by Steven Gerrard from the right by-line.
24:04 Header at goal by Daniel Sturridge. Michel Vorm parries the ball away.
24:03 The ball is delivered by Victor Moses.
23:09 Clearance by Chico.
23:07 Steven Gerrard delivers the ball.
22:58 Miguel Michu makes a clearance.
22:57 Corner taken by Steven Gerrard.
22:17 Ashley Williams manages to make a clearance.
22:16 The ball is swung over by Jordan Henderson.
22:08 Jordan Henderson has an effort at goal. Ben Davies gets a block in.
21:44 Mamadou Sakho manages to make a clearance.
21:36 Ben Davies makes a clearance.
21:04 Centre by Angel Rangel.
20:41 Martin Skrtel manages to make a clearance.
20:04 Header at goal by Andre Wisdom goes over the frame of the goal.
20:01 Corner taken by Steven Gerrard.
19:08 Clearance by Wayne Routledge.
18:09 Clearance made by Ben Davies.
17:33 Jonjo Shelvey takes a shot and missed to the right of the net.
17:21 Mamadou Sakho manages to make a clearance.
17:18 Ben Davies crosses the ball.
15:55 Leiva Lucas restarts play with the free kick.
15:39 Unfair challenge on Phillippe Coutinho by Jonjo Shelvey results in a free kick.
14:59 Daniel Sturridge takes the chance to get an effort at goal and missed to the left of the goal.
13:33 Clearance by Wayne Routledge.
10:53 Wilfried Bony takes a shot. Simon Mignolet catches the ball.
10:23 Ben Davies manages to make a clearance.
9:02 Angel Rangel makes a clearance.
7:35 Phillippe Coutinho takes a shot. Michel Vorm safely holds on.
7:14 Angel Rangel manages to make a clearance.
7:12 Corner from the left by-line taken by Phillippe Coutinho.
6:32 Free kick taken by Michel Vorm.
6:05 Martin Skrtel gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Ashley Williams.
6:01 Corner from the right by-line taken by Steven Gerrard.
5:34 Clearance by Ashley Williams.
5:34 Jordan Henderson delivers the ball.
5:14 Free kick taken by Leiva Lucas.
5:07 Free kick awarded for a foul by Jonjo Shelvey on Daniel Sturridge.
3:06 Goal scored Goal! - Daniel Sturridge - Swansea 1 - 1 Liverpool Daniel Sturridge grabs a goal with a left foot finish. Swansea 1-1 Liverpool.
2:56 Clearance made by Chico.
2:55 Sanchez Jose Enrique crosses the ball.
1:27 Goal scored Goal! - Jonjo Shelvey - Swansea 1 - 0 Liverpool Jonjo Shelvey slots the ball left footed into the goal. Swansea 1-0 Liverpool.
1:25 Jonjo Shelvey takes the chance to get an effort at goal. Blocked by Martin Skrtel.
1:20 Clearance made by Jordan Henderson.
1:18 Clearance by Mamadou Sakho.
1:16 The ball is sent over by Angel Rangel.
1:05 Chico makes a clearance.
0:48 Angel Rangel makes a clearance.
0:00 The match gets underway.