Date: 17 November 2012 Opposition: Wigan Athletic Competition: League	BBC	Post	Sunday Times	Times	Telegraph		17 November 2012
		Echo	Sun Independent	Guardian	Mirror		
		Mail	Sun Telegraph	Independent	Wigan Today		

THE TIMES

Efficient Suarez sweeps to head of shooting charts

Liverpool 3
Suarez 47, 58, Enrique 65
Wigan Athletic 0
Referee K Friend
Attendance 44,913

Brendan Rodgers has a recurring problem. It is one that many of his contemporaries would like, but it is a problem all the same. After almost every game, the Liverpool manager has to find a way of spreading praise throughout his ranks in the knowledge that the discourse will be dominated by one man and one man alone.

Luis Suarez does not just demand attention and grab headlines; he overshadows everything else that happens around him. More often than not, it is his individual brilliance and growing goalscoring prowess that ensures that he hogs the limelight. On other occasions it is the devil that lurks inside the Uruguayan that makes him indisputably the centre of attention.

On Saturday, it was both: he scored twice to inspire Liverpool to victory and was also accused by Roberto Martinez of stamping on David Jones, the Wigan midfield player. Suarez's brace made him the leading scorer in the Barclays Premier League, with ten goals; it also ensured that he has either scored or created 12 of the 17 goals that his team have scored this season.

Rodgers described the challenge of revitalising Liverpool's fortunes as "monumental" last week, but if the form of their talisman offers a cause for hope, it is also provides a further test of his manager's ability to make sure that the rest do not wilt under accusations that they are a one-man team.

Against a Wigan side who were spirited in the first half but brittle in the second, Rodgers was able to point, with justification, to the supporting roles played by Raheem Sterling and Jose Enrique, who created the goals that mean Suarez's shot-conversion rate stands at 17 per cent, a clear improvement on 9.7 per cent from last season.

"He is a real masterclass marksman, up there with the world's best," the Liverpool manager said. "I know goalscorers will always get the credit, but the credit goes to the team because I thought the team was excellent."

There was also another contributing factor to Suarez's success, which modesty prevented Rodgers from mentioning, but should not go unnoticed. It was his tactical decision to replace Suso with Jordan Henderson after 36 minutes that allowed Liverpool to press higher up the pitch, which meant them getting players closer in support to Suarez than they had done previously and also to stretch Wigan's initially stubborn defence. Positively affecting games with such adjustments is becoming an increasing feature of Rodgers's time in charge.

"We had to flip it round a wee bit to get the control of the game, but once we got that first goal, you saw the benefit of that," Rodgers said. "We are not a team that wants the game to come to us. We want to create and get on the front foot and apply pressure. In the second half, the pressure was outstanding."

After Sterling set up Suarez's first goal with an astute cut-back, having pounced on a poor pass by Jean Beausejour, Enrique created his second with an incisive through-ball. Enrique added a third after Ali Al Habsi parried Sterling's shot, lending the scoreline a flourish in Liverpool's favour that had seemed improbable during a sterile first half.

Martinez was left to reflect on how the game had got away from Wigan and, as well as chastising his own players for switching off, his attention was drawn inexorably to you-know-who. "I thought we coped with him in the first half, he never troubled us once," he said. "But we gave the ball away. He's a clinical finisher and if you give him chances like the one Sterling served him, he's going to put them away. From that moment, it's a completely different situation."

We will not sell our star man, Werner claims tony barrett Tom Werner has insisted that Liverpool will not even contemplate selling Luis Suarez in January, maintaining that the club's objective in the forthcoming transfer window is to make quality additions to Brendan Rodgers's squad without cashing in on their star player.

Werner, the Liverpool chairman, was at Anfield to witness their 3-0 win over Wigan Athletic on Saturday and, after seeing Suarez become the Barclays Premier League's top scorer, he was asked if the 25-year-old could be sacrificed in the event of a big cash bid being lodged. "Absolutely not," Werner said. "He's a beautiful player to watch and, as a Liverpool fan, I hope I'm watching him for many years to come. We made a long-term contract with him in the summer and we are going to see a lot of his play at Liverpool.

"Our intention for January is to strengthen, but actions will speak louder than words. But that is certainly our intention. Obviously we have made some mistakes in the past but our intention is to deliver on our priorities and strengthen the squad."

Rodgers continues to monitor the form of Tom Ince, the Blackpool winger, but as yet Liverpool have not made an offer for the 20-year-old who was allowed to leave the club for a compensation payment in August 2011.

Liverpool are also hopeful that Raheem Sterling will put pen to paper on a new long-term contract before his 18th birthday in three weeks' time. The winger apologised to Ben Watson after a challenge left the Wigan midfield player with a broken right leg.

Roberto Martinez, the Wigan manager, exonerated Sterling of any blame, admitting it was an honest attempt by both to try to win the ball, but he fears that Watson could miss the majority of the rest of the season.

"It is hard to tell," Martinez said. "If we get lucky and he doesn't need surgery, that could make it a lot easier. If he needs surgery, that could easily be four to five months. The extent of surgery could bring plates and nails into it.

"It was a strong challenge because both players were looking at the ball and the shins collided. It was a nasty sound and, at grass level, you could hear the break. I didn't know exactly what it was, but I knew it was a really nasty injury. We will keep our fingers crossed and see the final assessment, but it doesn't look good."

TEAMS

Liverpool (4-2-3-1): J M Reina 6 -- A Wisdom 6, M Skrtel 6, D Agger 7 (sub: J Carragher, 82min), G Johnson 7 -- J Allen 7, S Gerrard 7 -- R Sterling 7, Suso 5 (sub: J Henderson, 36 7), J Enrique 7 - L Suarez 8 (sub: J Shelvey, 87).
Substitutes not used: B Jones, N Sahin, J Cole, S Coates.
Wigan Athletic (3-4-1-2): A Al Habsi 6 -- I Ramis 6, G Caldwell 6 (sub: J Gomez, 69 5), M Figueroa 7 -- E Boyce 6, J McCarthy 6, B Watson 5 (sub: D Jones, 32 5) J Beausejour 5 -- S Maloney 5 -- A Kone 6, F Di Santo 6 (sub: R Miyaichi, 69 5).
Substitutes not used: M Pollitt, C McManaman, M Boselli, R Stam.
Booked: Figueroa, Caldwell.

theguardian

Jose Enrique leads Liverpool's artistes in finally dancing to Rodgers's choreography

An expensive car sat stationary at the Shankly Gates, its engine idling as autograph hunters pushed scraps of papers through the windows. Stewards made half-hearted attempts to clear the crowd but, judging by his smile, Brendan Rodgers was rather enjoying the moment.

Around 90 minutes earlier the final whistle had blown on a win that Liverpool's manager must have felt represented more than the collection of an admittedly precious three points.

Quite apart from coming up against Roberto Martinez - a rival for the Anfield job last summer - it had the air of a watershed moment. A case of weeks of painstaking training ground choreography paying off as players demonstrated they are really beginning to grasp his vision.

Granted, it would almost certainly not have happened without Luis Suarez but it is slightly unfair to dub Anfield's class of 2012-13 a one-man team. Rodgers's conversion of Jose Enrique from out-of-favour full-back to inventive left-sided attacking midfielder resulted in the Spaniard scoring his first goal for the club, creating Suarez's second and inspiring several of Liverpool's best moments.

Equally encouragingly, England new boy Raheem Sterling - one of three teenagers in Liverpool's starting XI - also excelled, conjuring goals for Suarez and Jose Enrique. "Raheem's pull-back for Suarez's first was dead weight," Rodgers said. It came after the 17-year-old intercepted Jean Beausejour's slapdash pass and rounded Maynor Figueroa. Later, Sterling's parried shot precipitated Jose Enrique tapping home the third.

Despite his disappointment, Martinez - whose 3-4-1-2 formation initially confounded Liverpool - applauded Sterling's talent. "He's someone who finds the little spaces really well, then he's very direct," said Wigan's manager. "I love that sort of football." Sterling was blameless for the sickening collision of shins with Ben Watson which left the Wigan midfielder with a broken leg and Martinez discussing the types of surgical screws and nails potentially required to repair it.

"Raheem's amazing," said Rodgers who remains confident his protege will shortly sign a new, lengthy, contract. "He's so bright and sharp and you're seeing that little bit of arrogance with the ball. He's got a lot to learn but he's comfortable now."

So too, was, Steven Gerrard. Impressively controlled in a holding role, England's captain demonstrated a refreshing willingness to adapt to Rodgers's strictures.

If often thrilling rampages were part of Gerrard's old job, Jordan Henderson has done far too much aimless charging around since arriving from Sunderland. Here though Anfield saw a newly disciplined Henderson. Having replaced Suso in a tactical rejig which liberated Sterling's attacking potential, he shone, sticking to the blueprint admirably.

Man of the match: Luis Suarez (Liverpool)

Compiled by Graeme Riley

Date: 17 November 2012
Opposition: Wigan Athletic
Competition: League

BBC	Post	Sunday Times	Times	Telegraph
	Echo	Sun Independent	Guardian	Mirror
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17 November 2012

The Mail

Deadly Suarez makes the difference again

After a win like this, it is difficult to put a figure on Luis Suarez's value to Liverpool, but it stands somewhere between an enormous amount and priceless. Not that the Uruguayan is for sale, whatever reports of Roberto Mancini's interest at Manchester City claim.

Two more goals taken with clinical efficiency took the 25-year-old forward's Premier League tally for the season to 10. The rest of Liverpool's squad have scored six league goals between them. 'He's a master marksman, absolutely outstanding,' said Liverpool boss Brendan Rodgers, adding he is not concerned about too much pressure being on one man to deliver. 'Luis thrives on it,' he said.

Suarez was also involved in the build-up to Liverpool's third goal from Jose Enrique, but Rodgers insisted the praise should be spread wider.

'The superlatives are for the team,' he said.

'They were outstanding. Luis took his goals well and his movement was outstanding, but this was about the team.'

Enrique shone when the hosts came alive after an indifferent first half, but not as brightly as 17-year-old Raheem Sterling, who created the first and was heavily involved in the third goal.

But Liverpool fans know they desperately need reinforcements and Rodgers expects some movement in the next transfer window.

'We'll see what January brings,' he said. 'I'm not going to say we'll get five or six players in, but we'll get support.'

Wigan manager Roberto Martinez, who lost midfielder Ben Watson with a broken leg in the first half after a clash with Sterling, claimed the tiredness of players returning from the midweek international break was a factor in his side fading later.

He added: 'We controlled the game in the first half and stopped Liverpool, but you have to congratulate them.'

On Suarez, who Martinez accused of a second-half 'stamp' on David Jones, the Spaniard said: 'It's the sign of a top player when you get half a chance and score a goal.'

Liverpool's win was only their second in the league at home but took their unbeaten league run to seven, albeit including four draws.

Match facts

Liverpool: Reina, Wisdom, Agger (Carragher 82), Skrtel, Jose Enrique, Johnson, Gerrard, Allen, Sterling, Suarez (Shelvey 87), Fernandez Saez (Henderson 36).

Subs Not Used: Jones, Sahin, Cole, Coates.

Goals: Suarez 47, 58, Jose Enrique 65.

Wigan: Al Habsi, Ramis, Caldwell (Gomez 69), Figueroa, Boyce, Watson (Jones 32), McCarthy, Beausejour, Maloney, Di Santo (Miyaichi 69),Kone.

Subs Not Used: Pollitt, McManaman, Boselli, Stam.

Booked: Figueroa, Caldwell, Di Santo.

Attendance: 44,913

Referee: Kevin Friend (Leicestershire).

The Daily Telegraph

Werner pledge to keep Suarez and 'deliver'

Liverpool 3
Suarez 47, 58, Enrique 65
Wigan Athletic 0
Att: 44,913

The mantra from Liverpool chairman Tom Werner used to be "underpromise and over-deliver".

Shortly after watching Luis Suarez's latest star turn against Wigan Athletic, Werner was in the mood to make a more forthright pledge to those seeking a guarantee of Fenway Sports Group's intentions.

He said there was no prospect, either in the immediate or long-term, of the club's weekly match-winner Suarez being sold. "Absolutely not," Werner said. "He's a beautiful player to watch and, as a Liverpool fan, I hope I'm watching him for many years to come. We made a long-term contract with him and we are going to see a lot of his play at Liverpool."

Every time Werner or principal owner John Henry venture across the Atlantic, one imagines them in their firefighting costume, arriving at the Shankly Gates and asking stewards for the directions to the latest inferno that needs extinguishing. The blaze of publicity surrounding Suarez's future is not of their making, but it does no harm to occasionally offer public assurance in the face of the more scurrilous rumours that FSG would cash in for the right price.

Liverpool supporters have been in the market for more promise and less 'under delivery' over the last few months - particularly on the issue of player recruitment - and FSG is in territory where the goodwill for not being Tom Hicks and George Gillett has somewhat run its course.

Despite the win here, the need for Liverpool to buy rather than sell in January is apparent. Werner robustly confirmed Liverpool's plans.

"Our intention is to strengthen, but actions will speak louder than words," he said. "We are playing better and better each week. We have made some mistakes in the past but our intention is to deliver, strengthen the squad and move forward. We know January is a challenging time and I don't want to say we've got x or y but, hopefully, the fans will be pleased with what we do accomplish."

As a Los Angeles television and film producer, Werner can watch Suarez and appreciate the box-office appeal of a charismatic leading man. He must be tempted to ask the club's marketing department to add a 'double O' in front of Suarez's No 7. The Uruguayan is the man with the golden touch, granted a licence to thrill, consistently intervening to prevent Liverpool's sky falling in.

Suarez's double, Raheem Sterling's excellent second half and Jose Enrique's reinvention as a goalscoring left winger extended an unbeaten streak in the league to seven. Sterling, who created two of the goals, also has admirers hoping to demolish Liverpool's reputation as a club who can fulfil the ambitions of their best players. "Raheem is in a real good place here," manager Brendan Rodgers said. "He will tie himself down to a new contract because he wants to be here and he can be a great here."

It was against Wigan last season Sterling made his debut, a late substitute in a defeat that assisted Kenny Dalglish's demise and earned Roberto Martinez a Liverpool job interview. "I can see huge, huge progress," Martinez said. "When we saw him that day a year ago, you could see the real potential."

Wigan fancied their chances of a repeat victory at half-time, but Jean Beausejour's poor pass enabled Sterling to feed Suarez on 47 minutes and it could have been a rout afterwards. Martinez's mood darkened when he discovered Ben Watson suffered a broken leg after colliding with Sterling in the first half. There was no blame attached to the Liverpool youngster, who later apologised.

In the end it was a comfortable home victory, Werner able to return to the United States to prepare for the next, inevitable bout of firefighting when the transfer window opens.

Compiled by Graeme Riley

Date: 17 November 2012
Opposition: Wigan Athletic
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17 November 2012

THE INDEPENDENT

Sterling will sign a new contract, insists Rodgers

He might make more money elsewhere but Brendan Rodgers is confident that the opportunities Raheem Sterling will be given at Liverpool will make him stay.
Saturday's 3-0 victory over Wigan was the 11th straight league game the 17-year-old had started, although the fact that his contract runs out in June next year has led to a frenzy of speculation about his future.
The size of his salary is thought to be the greatest sticking point. Last week Sterling tweeted that it was "rubbish" he was holding out for [pounds sterling]50,000 a week, more than double what Liverpool are prepared to offer. However, that tweet was swiftly deleted due to the sensitivity of the issue. Yesterday, he tweeted again, apologising for a collision that led to Wigan's Ben Watson breaking his leg.
When the Liverpool manager was asked if he feared an approach for Sterling from other clubs, especially in London, where he grew up, Rodgers said: "They would be wasting his time.
"Raheem is in a real good place. He has been given an opportunity here this season and he is thriving on it. He will tie himself to a new contract because he wants to be here. He can be a great at this football club.
"The message is very simple. We are trying to drive the club forward over the next couple of years and there will be a little bit of pain along the way. However, there are not many teams in the Premier League who are starting with three teenagers. And why would you want to leave one of the biggest clubs in world football? It's a no-brainer."
Having committed themselves to paying Joe Cole, Jordan Henderson and Stewart Downing - three players with a very limited future at Anfield - a combined [pounds sterling]200,000 a week, there is a pressing need to reduce the wage bill at Liverpool.
However, the Liverpool chairman, Tom Werner, yesterday gave reassurances that not only would his Fenway Sports Group not countenance the sale of Luis Suarez, they were prepared for substantial expansion in the January transfer window.
"Obviously, we have made some mistakes in the past," he said in relation to Liverpool's wage bill. "However, our intention now is to deliver a priority product and strengthen the squad but actions will speak louder than words. I don't want to say more than that. We know that January is a challenging time and I don't want to say that we have got X or Y lined up but, hopefully, the fans will be very pleased with what we do accomplish."
Two Januaries ago, FSG approved the purchase of Suarez from Ajax, the only one of the big signings made under Kenny Dalglish who still has a future on Merseyside. When asked if he would even countenance the striker's departure, Werner replied: "Absolutely not."
He added: "He is a beautiful player to watch and, as a Liverpool fan, I am hoping to watch him for many years to come. We made a long contract with him in the summer and we are going to see a lot of his play atLiverpool."

DAILY Mirror

Luis Suarez at the double as the Reds cruise to victory

Steven Gerrard has been The Man at Liverpool for more than a decade but it seems the mantle must now be passed to Luis Suarez.
While Gerrard remains an inspiring force at this club, the Uruguay striker has become the player they cannot do without.
The stats swats tell us that Suarez's contribution as provider and scorer accounts for all but two of Liverpool's points.
What cannot be disputed is that he lifted Anfield's growing anxiety with two smartly-taken goals and a significant hand in the third from Joe Enrique.
Thanks to Suarez's 10 Premier League goals and regular assists, Liverpool are mid-table and daring to believe in much better.
A credible future without Suarez is surely unthinkable. The ovation he received when he departed, four minutes from the end, was testament to his stature.
Much as he has declared his commitment to the club, those fans know he will require evidence that Liverpool's aspirations match his own.
Suarez might have had at least two more goals as Wigan's resistance crumbled in the second half. Roberto Martinez's side never seriously threatened to repeat their Anfield victory last season and long before the end were in disarray.
But they were not helped when midfielder Ben Watson broke a leg after challenging Raheem Sterling for a high ball midway through the first half.
He was helped off without the aid of a stretcher but Martinez confirmed afterwards: "It's a break. It was a pure accident. Both players were looking at the ball."
Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers was reluctant to heap all the praise on Suarez, contending it was a day to acclaim the whole team. But he acknowledged: "Luis is a wonderful striker, a master marksman and absolutely outstanding.
"I'm not concerned he is carrying too much of the burden for the team. He thrives on it, the freedom of playing as a loose striker. He's at the pinnacle and getting goals.
"We'll see what the January transfer window brings and try to get him some support."
Wigan were stunned by Watson's broken leg and angered that Suarez escaped punishment for a challenge on substitute David Jones.
Martinez said: "Suarez was lucky because he stamped on Jones and that is not the sign of a top player."
Pepe Reina, restored to the Liverpool goal after missing seven matches with a hamstring injury, watched contentedly as the action developed at the other end.
Daniel Agger went close with a couple of headers and Wigan goalkeeper Ali Al-Habsi did well to keep out Suso's 25-yard blast.
But Wigan unravelled in the second half. Jean Beausejour's back pass sold Maynor Figueroa short, Sterling stole the ball and cut it back for Suarez to put Liverpool in front.
Suarez then timed his run perfectly to collect Enrique's through-ball and beat the advancing Al-Habsi.
In his excitement, he went for his hat-trick and dragged the ball out for a throw-in. He did, however, link with Sterling to create the third. Al-Habsi parried the England youngster's cross and Enrique tapped in his first goal for the club.

WIGAN today.net
Wigan Observer

TWO goals from Luis Suarez and another from Jose Enrique saw Latics crash 3-0 at Liverpool - and there was more bad news for Wigan with Ben Watson stretchered off in agony after breaking his leg.
The visitors had more than held their own during an even first half, overcoming the early loss of Watson after a freak collision with Raheem Sterling to go in at half time on level terms. Sterling apologised for his part in the incident after the match and Watson could be out for four months.
But Suarez broke the deadlock within two minutes of the restart with a deadly finish from 10 yards - and after that there was only one winner.
The Uruguayan quickly made it two with a beautiful finish from Enrique's through ball.
And Enrique grabbed number three himself from close range after Raheem Sterling's shot was parried by Ali Al Habsi.
Latics: Al Habsi; Ramis, Caldwell, Figueroa; Boyce, McCarthy, Watson, Beausejour; Maloney, Kone, Di Santo.
Subs: Pollitt, Stam, Jones (for Watson, 32), Gomez (for Caldwell, 69), Miyaichi (for Di Santo, 69), McManaman, Boselli.
Liverpool: Reina; Wisdom, Skrtel, Agger, Johnson; Sterling, Gerrard, Allen, Enrique; Suso, Suarez.
Subs: Jones, Coates, Carragher (for Agger, 82), Sahin, Henderson (for Suso, 36), Shelvey (for Suarez, 88), Cole.

Compiled by Graeme Riley

Date: 17 November 2012
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17 November 2012

LIVERPOOL ECHO

LUIS SUAREZ inspired Liverpool with a double strike as the Reds defeated Wigan Atheltic to claim their third league win of the season.
Two second half goals from the Uruguayan and a first goal for the club from Jose Enrique saw Brendan Rodgers move up two places in the Premier League table.
Wigan, who won here last season thanks to a Gary Caldwell goal, have proved stubborn opposition in recent seasons with Liverpool failing to win any of their five previous meetings.
And after forgettable first 45 minutes at Anfield this afternoon, supporters may have feared further disappointment against the Lattics but Suarez kick-started a much improved second half performance where Rodgers' men plundered three goals inside 20 minutes.
The former Ajax man opened the scoring when he converted Raheem Sterling's cross before latching on to Jose Enrqiue's through ball and finished clinically beyond Ali Al Habsi.
Enrique then added a third goal as Liverpool wrapped up the three points and extended their unbeaten run in the league to seven matches.
The game only came to life two minutes after the restart when Maynor Figueroa was sold short by a pass from Jean Beausejour.
Sterling was on to it as quick as a flash and after surging into the area he crossed from Suarez to finish high past Al Habsi.
Before Uruguayan's ninth league goal of the season there had been little to excite the fans.
Daniel Agger's header was palmed wide by Al Habsi and Suso's stinging drive from distance was blocked by the Wigan goalkeeper – but there was little else in a low key first half.
Enrique, playing on the left hand side of the midfield, fired wide, Suarez hit a free-kick over the bar and Suso had been unable to get proper contact on a header in an opening 45 minutes where Wigan had proved well organised.
Liverpool held the lion's share of possession but were unable to hurt the visitors.
But once Suarez had broken the deadlock, the Reds played with greater freedom and 10 minutes after opening the scoring, the 25-year-old made it 2-0.
Enrique threaded the ball into his path and Suarez poked the ball beyond Al Habsi for his 13th goal in all competitions this campaign.
Spaniard Enrique turned goalscorer for Liverpool's third when Sterling's shot was saved by Al Habsi but only into the former Newcastle United man's path and he knocked the ball home from two yards.
Wigan players Gary Caldwell and Franco Di Santo were booked for remonstrating with referee Kevin Friend after the match official awarded Liverpool a throw-in which led to their goal.
The visitors were convinced the ball had gone out of play against Suarez.
Henderson and Glen Johnson both had chances to add to the scoreline but were off-target with their efforts.
But little did it matter as Rodgers' side celebrated a much welcome victory.
LIVERPOOL (4-2-3-1) Reina, Wisdom, Skrtel, Agger (Carragher 82), Johnson, Gerrard ©, Allen, Enrique, Sterling, Suarez (Shelvey 87), Suso (Henderson 37).
Subs: Jones, Sahin, Cole, Henderson, Coates, Carragher, Shelvey.
Goals: Suarez (47,58) Enrique (66)
Cautions: None
Red Cards: None
WIGAN ATHLETIC (3-4-2-1) Al Habsi, Ramis, Caldwell (Gomez 69), Figueroa, Boyce, McCarthy, Watson (Jones 32), Beausejour, Di Santo (Miyaichi 69), Maloney, Kone.
Subs: Pollitt, Gopmez, McManaman, Boselli, Stam, Jones, Miyaichi.
Goals: None
Cautions: Figueroa, Di Santo, Caldwell
Red Cards: None
Referee: Kevin Friend
Attendance: 44, 913

LIVERPOOL DAILY POST

LIVERPOOL may have enjoyed a rare home comfort on Saturday, but Brendan Rodgers still found himself fending off a familiar line of questioning.
The Northern Irishman was forced to smile through gritted teeth while responding to speculation a major rival was preparing to relieve him of one his teams leading members.
Out came the usual soundbites dismissing any imminent approach while extolling the potential for the player to become an Anfield great.
But that it was Raheem Sterling and not Luis Suarez the Liverpool manager was discussing underlines the enormous strides the teenager has already made during his fledgling career.
London neighbours Arsenal and Tottenham Hotspur both want to take Sterling back to the capital, speculation that will continue until the youngster, as is expected, pens a new contract on his 18th birthday next month.
Rodgers, though, is adamant. They would be wasting their time, he says. Raheem is in a real good place here. The kid has been brilliant. We just have to nurture that.
What I like now is that you are seeing that little bit of arrogance with the ball. He is comfortable now.
He will tie down himself to a new contract because he wants to be here and he can be a great here at this football club.
And why would you want to leave one of the biggest clubs in world football? It's a no-brainer.
Suarez may have found the target twice more at the weekend but the Uruguayan found himself sharing centre stage with Sterling, the youngster contributing two assists to draw a satisfying line under another week in his dizzying rise up the ranks having made his full England debut in Sweden on Wednesday.
He knows he has a lot to learn and a lot to improve on, but you see him and Suarez combining better in each game, says Rodgers.
Coming off the back of his international debut and playing 86 minutes and then coming back here and playing 90 minutes and looking like he could play another 90 minutes at the end of the game it's just amazing.
Also amazing is the fact its less than eight months since Sterling made his first-team bow as a late substitute for Liverpool in the 2-1 home defeat to Wigan in March.
And Latics manager Roberto Martinez, who lost out to Rodgers in the battle to replace Kenny Dalglish in the summer, has been unsurprised by the wingers subsequent impact.
He has made huge, huge progress, says Martinez. But when we saw him that day last season, you could see the real potential.
I think when you have players who take people on, that make things happen, you can see he's a very direct, talented player and he's going to have a very bright future.
A piece of alert play from Sterling, allied to a tactical switch from Rodgers, shook Liverpool out of their first-half stupor on Saturday to ensure only their third Premier League win of the season and just their eighth in 27 home league games.
Until the manager made the decision to replace Suso with Jordan Henderson eight minutes before the break, Liverpool, employing their usual 4-2-3-1 formation, had been lethargic, lackadaisical and lacking in ideas.
Henderson, sent on to help Steven Gerrard support Suarez, brought much-needed energy to the midfield, his ever-willing nature swiftly winning approval from the home crowd.
We had to flip it round a wee bit in order to get the control of the game, but once we got that first goal you saw the benefit of that, admits Rodgers.
We are not a team that wants the game to come to us, we want to create and really get on the front foot and apply pressure and I thought, in particular in the second half the pressure was outstanding.
That difference was apparent just two minutes into the second half. Sterling pounced after Jean Beausejour sold Maynor Figueroa short, the wingers cut-back smashed clinically into the top corner by Suarez.
Jose Enrique, like Henderson, has been expected to join Andy Carroll, Charlie Adam and the outgoing Stewart Downing in Rodgers cull of the Dalglish-Damien Comolli regime.
While both may yet face a similar fate, they did their long-term cause no harm here with Enrique, encouraging as a makeshift left-winger at Chelsea last week, reprising the role to an even more impressive level.
On 57 minutes, the Spaniard drifted in off the left flank and, with the outside of his left boot, deftly rolled through an inviting pass for Suarez to burst between two Wigan defenders and toe-poke into the bottom corner.
Enrique then scored his first Liverpool goal in his 53rd appearance, prodding home from close range after Sterling played a one-two with Suarez and saw his shot parried by goalkeeper Ali Al Habsi, although Wigan were right to bemoan not being awarded the throw-in that sparked the move.
It says much, of course, that Rodgers turned to Enrique, who had previously scored only one goal in more than five years in English football, to bolster an attack that remains overly-reliant on Suarez.
Suarez, Henderson, Glen Johnson and Jonjo Shelvey all could have added to Liverpools tally, with a disappointing Wigans only response a shot directed wastefully over by substitute Jordi Gomez.
Despite Liverpool extending their unbeaten Premier League run to seven games, watching Liverpool chairman Tom Werner will appreciate reinforcements remain desperately required in January to help Suarez and Sterling not replace them.

MAN OF THE MATCH. Luis Suarez. It would be easy to be contrary but the Uruguayan just shades Sterling and Enrique to the award

Compiled by Graeme Riley

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17 November 2012

THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

Suarez walks on, but mostly alone

The greatest football heroes do not play in great teams. Like Diego Maradona at Napoli or Steven Gerrard in the European Cup final in Istanbul, they often provide the only pathway to glory. Or like Alan Shearer at Newcastle they are a bulwark against mediocrity.

Luis Suarez falls into the second camp. His position at Liverpool is probably not that dissimilar to what it was when he played football in the streets of Montevideo. He is the first pick and everything revolves around placing a football at his feet.

When Suarez latched on to Raheem Sterling's pull-back and drove the ball into the roof of Ali Al-Habsi's net, the television commentator shouted: "And where would Liverpool be without him?" Since he has scored 10 of their 17 goals and provided two assists, the answer is deep in the relegation zone.

Brendan Rodgers was anxious to stress that, despite all the statistics to the contrary, Liverpool are more than a one-man team, although he described Suarez as a "master marksman". His opposite number, Roberto Martinez, however, preferred to focus on his darker side.

"He scored from the first mistake we made and his finish was that of a top player," the Wigan manager said. "From then on, we opened up and created spaces and that is when he really enjoys his football. But he was very fortunate because he stamped on David Jones and it would have been a red card if the referee had seen it. That was not the sign of a top player."

What added to Martinez's frustration was that once more Wigan's small squad suffered after an international break and that the loss of Ben Watson, who broke a leg in a collision with Sterling, made that squad smaller still. It was an accident but the crack as the two men collided was sickening and Martinez confirmed the worst.

Wigan had become a strange kind of bogey side to Liverpool in the same way that in their glory years, they always had problems with Leicester. Their last victory over Wigan was three years and as many managers ago. However, Rodgers pointed out that this time Liverpool took their chances.

It began with an error, which if it was Wigan's first of the afternoon, as Martinez claimed, was instantly punished. Jean Beausejour spun around in horror after his sloppy back pass was intercepted by Sterling. The Uruguayan's instinct did the rest. It was the fifth consecutive game in which he had scored.

That was when the game changed. Hitherto, Liverpool had performed much as they had all season, with plenty of possession but not much edge, typified by a sequence of passes that began near the Wigan area and finished with Daniel Agger passing back to his goalkeeper, Pepe Reina, returning for the first time in six weeks and greeted by a giant banner on the Kop with his picture and the slogan "No Pasaran". Apart from a shot that struck his post, not much from Wigan did threaten to pass.

Rodgers removed another much younger Spaniard, Suso, well before half-time on the grounds that "our organisation at the front end of the field was not what I wanted" but once Suarez struck, Liverpool'sconfidence returned.

The mood was best displayed in a lovely ball from Jose Enrique that Suarez, running between two defenders, seized upon. Al-Habsi came out but the shot was past him almost before he could spread himself. There might have been a hat-trick to match the one at Norwich but, after wriggling through, Suarez found only the side-netting.

The third extinguished whatever resistance Wigan had left as a one-two involving Sterling and Suarez was parried by Al-Habsi's gloves into Jose Enrique's path. Rodgers had used the left back as a winger and pointed out that Gareth Bale had made the same transformation. Since this was Enrique's first Premier League goal, this was perhaps a comparison too far.

Liverpool (4-3-2-1): Reina; Wisdom, Skrtel, Agger (Carragher, 82), Johnson; Allen, Gerrard, Jose Enrique; Sterling, Suso (Henderson, 37); Suarez (Shelvey, 87).
Wigan (4-4-2) Al-Habsi; Ramis, Caldwell (Gomez, 70), Boyce, Figueroa; Watson (Jones, 32), McCarthy, Maloney, Beausejour; Di Santo (Miyaichi, 70), Kon[c].
Referee: Kevin Friend
Man of the match: Suarez (Liverpool) Match rating: 6/10

The Sunday Telegraph

Martinez hits out as Suarez brace sinks Latics

Liverpool 3
Suarez 47 58, Enrique 65
Wigan Athletic 0
Att: 44,913

It is not surprising Brendan Rodgers rejects the notion his side have become a one-man band, utterly dependant on Luis Suarez.

But as Suarez inspired victory over Wigan, it was impossible not to see him as charismatic front man, percussionist, rhythm guitarist and keyboardist rolled into one during the 3-0 win.

In the eyes of Roberto Martinez, he was also chief protagonist for less savoury reasons. He accused the Uruguayan of stamping on midfielder David Jones.

As Anfield rose to applaud Suarez when he was substituted three minutes from time, Martinez did not join the ovation.

"There was a stamp. That's not the sign of a top player," said Martinez, who also lost Ben Watson with a broken leg.

"Things happen in a game and he was lucky today. It wasn't a nasty game. The broken leg was an accident. When you see the replay of the challenge on Jones you see the stamp, but that's the nature of the game. If the referee doesn't see it you are lucky."

Anfield was too busy rocking to Suarez's beat in a rampant second half to notice anything untoward.

Suarez scored two and had a role in the third for Jose Enrique as Rodgers' men showed the panache he's been promising since assuming control.

Enrique and Raheem Sterling played their part, but Suarez already has 10 league goals this season. It was he who transformed the mood at Anfield from despondent during a goalless first half to exuberant by full-time. Rodgers, understandably, wants the focus to be on the team rather than his No7, but his intention is to build a side around his striker.

"It's not just Luis Suarez. He is a wonderful striker and he is paid to score but lots of other teams have strikers who finish off good work by the team," said Rodgers. "He is a master marksman and we are thrilled to have him, but the ethos is on the team. He's not at all worried at having too much burden to score. He thrives on it."

Liverpool are unbeaten in seven league games. Had they not drawn so often they would be talking more confidently about a top-four finish. There were also reminders of the challenge ahead, however.

Aside from the loss of Watson following an innocuous challenge, Martinez - who could as easily have been in the home dugout after his coffee morning in Florida with John Henry last May - was the happier coach at half-time.

His mood darkened because Liverpool were unrecognisable in the second half, helped by some poor Wigan defending.

Martinez felt fatigue after the international break was a factor, but it didn't affect Liverpool.

Rodgers demanded a higher tempo at half-time and the improvement was instantly rewarded when Jean Beausejour's weak pass left Maynor Figueroa stranded.

Sterling stole in and crossed for Suarez who finished emphatically. No gifts were required for Suarez's second after 58 minutes, as Enrique slipped the striker through for a sublime finish with the outside of his right foot.

Enrique then tapped in the third after 65 minutes after more fine work from Sterling as the Kop finally enjoyed a nerveless finale to a home fixture.

Liverpool (4-3-3): Reina; Johnson, Agger (Carragher 82), Skrtel, Wisdom; Allen, Gerrard, Suso (Henderson 37); Enrique, Sterling, Suarez (Shelvey 87). Subs: Jones, Sahin, Cole, Carragher, Coates Wigan (4-4-2): Al Habsi; Figueroa, Ramis, Caldwell (Gomez 69), Boyce; Beausejour, McCarthy, Watson (Jones 32), Maloney; Kone, Di Santo (Miyaichi 69). Subs: Pollitt, McManaman, Stam, Boselli Referee: K Friend (Leics).

Compiled by Graeme Riley

Date: 17 November 2012
Opposition: Wigan Athletic
Competition: League

BBC	Post	Sunday Times	Times	Telegraph
	Echo	Sun Independent	Guardian	Mirror
	Mail	Sun Telegraph	Independent	Wigan Today

17 November 2012

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Sensational Suarez

LIVERPOOL 3
Suarez 47, 58, Enrique 65
WIGAN 0

IF BRENDAN RODGERS, or anyone else for that matter, were even considering the sale of Luis Suarez, then here was evidence to dismiss such thoughts as ludicrous. Suarez was the perfect spearhead in 20 minutes of attacking excellence in a second half brimful of pace and endeavour that not only
produced Liverpool's second home win in the Premier League this season but also demonstrated how invaluable a role the Uruguayan must play in the rebuilding process going on at Anfield.

Praise for Suarez was tempered by a suggestion from Wigan's manager, Roberto Martinez, that the Uruguayan stamped on substitute David Jones midway through the second half. The alleged offence went unpunished by referee Kevin Friend. "That is not the sign of a top player and it could have been a red card if the referee had seen it," Martinez said. Jones managed to play on without any treatment and Martinez added: "But he [Friend] didn't see so I think Suarez would be unlucky for anything more to come of it. Good luck to him."

Rodgers was reluctant to single out anyone for praise but after being pressed on Suarez's importance to the team, the Liverpool manager conceded: "He is a master marksman. He thrives on the responsibility and enjoys playing in this system and is enjoying that freedom of being the loose striker. But the most pleasing thing about this victory is the ethos of the team and Luis finishes off great work."

Liverpool's approach play was neat and accurate but only Suarez seemed to offer a threat inside the penalty area. A three-man Wigan central defensive unit, marshalled by the uncompromising Gary Caldwell, seemed equipped to deal with any danger.

But Liverpool returned for the second half intent on forcing the play and within two minutes of the restart there was a reward. Jean Beausejour attempted a back pass that could only be termed reckless and 17-year-old Raheem Sterling intercepted and crossed for Suarez to volley past a helpless Ali Al Habsi, the Wigan goalkeeper.

The goal was a catalyst for Liverpool's play to blossom. Previously the only real threat seemed to come from a series of set-pieces, inevitably involving Steven Gerrard, but suddenly there was flair all across the pitch. Sterling was given room to display his skills and Jose Enrique, employed in a more advanced role and given licence to attack, took to the role with vigour.

Wigan had become something of a bogey side for Liverpool, going the five previous fixtures between the two clubs unbeaten. But the heart appeared to be taken out of the visitors' challenge when Ben Watson was carried off after half-an-hour with a broken leg after a tackle from Sterling.

Liverpool then ran at Wigan with little resistance and nobody was more threatening than Enrique. "I looked at the way Gareth Bale has been pushed forward from being a full-back to a wide attacking midfield player and I thought Jose could play that role because of his power and his pace," Rodgers said.

Such was the case as the Spaniard, signed from Newcastle for [pounds sterling]5m in August of 2011 with thoughts of playing nowhere other than left-back, surged forward and played a precise pass into the path of Suarez, who drilled the chance home.

Suarez then turned provider as he exchanged passes with Sterling for the young winger to cross low and Enrique to hit his first Premier League goal. Star man: Luis Suarez (Liverpool) Yellow cards: Wigan: Figueroa, Caldwell, Di Santo Referee: K Friend Attendance: 44,913 Liverpool: Reina 6, Wisdom 7, Agger 7 (Carragher 82min), Skrtel 7, Johnson 7, Gerrard 8, Allen 7, Sterling 7, Suso 5 Wigan: Al Habsi 5, Ramis 5, Caldwell 6 (Gomez 69min), Figueroa 6, Boyce 5, Watson 6 (Jones 32mins), McCarthy 5, Beausejour 3, Maloney 5, Kone 4, Di Santo 3 (Miyachi 69min) SUAREZ LANDMARK ? Luis Suarez became the first Liverpool player to score in four successive Premier League matches since Dirk Kuyt -- who went on to score in a fifth consecutive match -- from April to May 2011 ? Yesterday's victory was Liverpool's first win against Wigan Athletic in six league matches

Compiled by Graeme Riley

Date: 17 November 2012 Opposition: Wigan Athletic Competition: League	BBC	Post	Sunday Times	Times	Telegraph		17 November 2012
		Echo	Sun Independent	Guardian	Mirror		
		Mail	Sun Telegraph	Independent	Wigan Today		

BBC

94:07Full time The referee signals the end of the game.
90:00+2:45 A cross is delivered by Sanchez Jose Enrique, clearance made by Maynor Figueroa.
90:00+2:35 Sanchez Jose Enrique produces a cross, save by Ali Al Habsi.
90:00+2:07 Jean Beausejour crosses the ball.
90:00+0:01 Jonjo Shelvey takes a shot. Comfortable save by Ali Al Habsi.
88:30 Corner taken short by Jean Beausejour. David Jones takes a shot from just inside the penalty box which clears the crossbar.
86:28Substitution SubstitutionLuis Suarez goes off and Jonjo Shelvey comes on.
85:29 Jordi Gomez produces a left-footed shot from just outside the box that goes wide left of the target.
84:29 Shot from long distance by James McCarthy misses to the right of the goal.
81:05Substitution SubstitutionJamie Carragher comes on in place of Daniel Agger.
81:05 Luis Suarez has an effort at goal from deep inside the area missing to the right of the goal.
79:22 The offside flag is raised against Ryo Miyaichi. Direct free kick taken by Glen Johnson.
78:58 Steven Gerrard takes a shot. Maynor Figueroa gets a block in.
78:39 Short corner worked by Raheem Sterling.
78:29 Andre Wisdom produces a cross, Maynor Figueroa makes a clearance.
78:13 A cross is delivered by Raheem Sterling, clearance by James McCarthy.
77:21 A cross is delivered by Jean Beausejour, Sanchez Jose Enrique makes a clearance.
76:12 Glen Johnson has an effort at goal from just outside the box which goes wide of the left-hand upright.
74:58 The official flags Arouna Kone offside. Jose Reina restarts play with the free kick.
74:03 Short corner taken by Jordi Gomez. Jordi Gomez crosses the ball, save made by Jose Reina.
72:20 The referee blows for offside. Free kick taken by Maynor Figueroa.
70:23 Jordi Gomez produces a left-footed shot from inside the area that goes over the bar.
68:34Substitution SubstitutionRyo Miyaichi on for Franco Di Santo.
68:34Substitution SubstitutionJordi Gomez replaces Gary Caldwell.
68:10 The ball is crossed by Sanchez Jose Enrique, save made by Ali Al Habsi.
67:54 Arouna Kone challenges Daniel Agger unfairly and gives away a free kick. Direct free kick taken by Glen Johnson.
67:31 Shot from deep inside the area by Jordan Henderson clears the crossbar.
65:55Booking Gary Caldwell is shown a yellow card.
65:09Booking The referee shows Franco Di Santo a yellow card for dissent.
64:57 Raheem Sterling provided the assist for the goal.
64:57Goal scored Goal - Sanchez Jose Enrique - Liverpool 3 - 0 WiganSanchez Jose Enrique grabs a goal from inside the six-yard box to the bottom left corner of the goal. Liverpool 3-0 Wigan.
64:47 Raheem Sterling has an effort at goal. Save by Ali Al Habsi.
62:15 Luis Suarez takes a shot. Blocked by Gary Caldwell. Corner taken right-footed by Steven Gerrard from the right by-line, Shaun Maloney makes a clearance.
61:03 Shot by Luis Suarez.
58:57 Glen Johnson fouled by Arouna Kone, the ref awards a free kick. Jose Reina takes the direct free kick.
57:43 Assist by Sanchez Jose Enrique.
57:43Goal scored Goal - Luis Suarez - Liverpool 2 - 0 WiganA goal is scored by Luis Suarez from inside the box to the bottom right corner of the goal. Liverpool 2-0 Wigan.
56:16 Corner taken by David Jones from the right by-line, save by Jose Reina. The ball is sent over by Jean Beausejour, Martin Skrtel makes a clearance.
55:30 Shot from outside the box by Jordan Henderson misses to the left of the goal.
55:21 The ball is crossed by Raheem Sterling, Gary Caldwell makes a clearance.
54:41 Shot from 25 yards from Franco Di Santo. Comfortable save by Jose Reina.
53:54 A cross is delivered by Glen Johnson, Gary Caldwell manages to make a clearance.
51:12 Unfair challenge on Luis Suarez by Ivan Ramis results in a free kick. Joe Allen restarts play with the free kick.
48:28 David Jones concedes a free kick for a foul on Joe Allen. Direct free kick taken by Joe Allen.
47:49 Unfair challenge on James McCarthy by Steven Gerrard results in a free kick. Direct free kick taken by Maynor Figueroa.
46:43 Assist on the goal came from Raheem Sterling.
46:43Goal scored Goal - Luis Suarez - Liverpool 1 - 0 WiganLuis Suarez finds the back of the net with a goal from inside the penalty box to the top right corner of the goal. Liverpool 1-0 Wigan.
46:00 Ivan Ramis gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Steven Gerrard. Direct free kick taken by Glen Johnson.
45:01 The game restarts for the second half.
45:00+4:25Half time It is the end of the first-half.
45:00+3:58 Raheem Sterling gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Jean Beausejour. Maynor Figueroa takes the direct free kick.
45:00+3:11 Free kick awarded for a foul by Andre Wisdom on Franco Di Santo. Free kick taken by Gary Caldwell.
45:00+2:58 Daniel Agger takes a shot. Gary Caldwell gets a block in.
45:00+2:07 Corner taken by Luis Suarez from the right by-line to the near post, David Jones makes a clearance.
45:00+1:47 Steven Gerrard decides to take a short corner.
45:00+1:37 Sanchez Jose Enrique produces a cross, clearance made by Gary Caldwell.
45:00+0:17 Shaun Maloney concedes a free kick for a foul on Joe Allen. Martin Skrtel takes the direct free kick.
43:19 The ball is sent over by Luis Suarez, save by Ali Al Habsi.
39:16 Steven Gerrard produces a right-footed shot from outside the penalty box and misses right.
38:10 Andre Wisdom takes the free kick.
38:10Booking Maynor Figueroa is cautioned.
38:04 Maynor Figueroa challenges Raheem Sterling unfairly and gives away a free kick.
37:01 Jean Beausejour concedes a free kick for a foul on Raheem Sterling. Joe Allen takes the direct free kick.
34:24Substitution SubstitutionJordan Henderson replaces Jesus Fernandez Saez.
34:24 Foul by James McCarthy on Luis Suarez, free kick awarded. Luis Suarez has a direct shot on goal from the free kick.
32:19 Daniel Agger challenges Franco Di Santo unfairly and gives away a free kick. Strike on goal comes in from Maynor Figueroa from the free kick.
30:43Substitution SubstitutionDavid Jones replaces Ben Watson.
30:43 Centre by Glen Johnson, Header from deep inside the area by Jesus Fernandez Saez goes harmlessly over the crossbar.
24:48 Ben Watson fouled by Raheem Sterling, the ref awards a free kick. Ivan Ramis produces a shot on goal direct from the free kick, blocked by Steven Gerrard. Corner taken by Shaun Maloney from the right by-line to the near post, clearance made by Martin Skrtel.
24:20 Corner from the left by-line taken by Jean Beausejour, clearance by Martin Skrtel.
23:47 Steven Gerrard challenges Jean Beausejour unfairly and gives away a free kick. The free kick is delivered right-footed by Ben Watson from left wing, clearance made by Daniel Agger.
22:35 Shot by Jesus Fernandez Saez. Ali Al Habsi gets a block in. Jesus Fernandez Saez gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on James McCarthy. Free kick taken by Maynor Figueroa.
21:39 Drilled right-footed shot by Glen Johnson. Ben Watson gets a block in. Corner taken by Steven Gerrard played to the near post, Header from deep inside the penalty area by Daniel Agger goes harmlessly over the crossbar.
20:37 Inswinging corner taken left-footed by Jesus Fernandez Saez played to the near post, James McCarthy manages to make a clearance.
19:15 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Jesus Fernandez Saez by Maynor Figueroa. Free kick crossed right-footed by Steven Gerrard from right wing, James McCarthy manages to make a clearance.
18:46 Raheem Sterling produces a cross, clearance made by Ivan Ramis.
18:22 Shot from 30 yards by Arouna Kone. Jose Reina makes a save.
17:41 Outswinging corner taken by Jesus Fernandez Saez, Ivan Ramis makes a clearance.
17:00 Steven Gerrard produces a cross, clearance made by Gary Caldwell.
13:55 Shot by Ben Watson from outside the area goes high over the crossbar.
11:18 Luis Suarez takes a shot. Gary Caldwell gets a block in. Joe Allen challenges Shaun Maloney unfairly and gives away a free kick. Gary Caldwell restarts play with the free kick.
9:34 Corner taken left-footed by Jesus Fernandez Saez to the near post, James McCarthy makes a clearance.
8:58 Steven Gerrard takes the inswinging corner, Franco Di Santo manages to make a clearance.
7:27 Maynor Figueroa fouled by Luis Suarez, the ref awards a free kick. Gary Caldwell takes the direct free kick.
6:30 Jesus Fernandez Saez takes a shot from 18 yards. Blocked by Gary Caldwell.
5:17 Arouna Kone challenges Daniel Agger unfairly and gives away a free kick. Glen Johnson takes the free kick.
4:37 Sanchez Jose Enrique has an effort at goal from outside the penalty box missing to the wide right of the goal.
2:06 Raheem Sterling takes a short corner.
0:00 The match gets underway.

Compiled by Graeme Riley