Date: 30 August 2012
Opposition: Heart of Midlothian
Competition: Europa League

Post	Times	Telegraph	Scotsman
	Guardian	Mirror	BBC
	Independent	Mail	Echo

30 August 2012

THE TIMES

Late Suarez strike underlines limp Liverpool's need for quality

Liverpool1 Heart of Midlothian 1 (Liverpool win 2-1 on agg) Amid suggestions that Brendan Rodgers will not have the money to replace Andy
Carroll, Liverpool limped into the Europa League at the expense of Heart of Midlothian with a laboured display that only served to underline his urgent need for quality reinforcements.
Carroll was allowed to join West Ham United on loan yesterday
but Liverpool's failure to secure a fee for their record signing means Rodgers's hands are likely to be restricted, if not tied altogether, on transfer deadline day.
In his absence, it took a late goal from Luis Suarez to guarantee that they qualified for European competition after they were taken to the brink by a spirited Hearts side which thought they had earned themselves extra time when David Templeton scored with just six minutes remaining.
Hearts arrived at Anfield knowing that Liverpool had never previously been eliminated from Europe after winning the first leg away from home, a statistic which indicated that the 1-0 defeat they suffered at Tynecastle a week ago meant that they had to overcome decades of history.
If there was a crumb of comfort on offer to John McGlynn and his players, though, it was provided by the continuing sense that this Liverpool side is a work in progress, a feeling that was added to before kick-off when it emerged that Carroll had been given permission to leave on loan.
Rodgers turned instead to Adam Morgan, a product of Liverpool's much-improved academy, to lead the attack alongside Suarez. The 18-yearold is a prolific goalscorer at youth levels, but it was as a provider that he made his first big impression for the senior team as he set up Suarez for a close-range header that Marius Zaliukas had to clear from his own goalline to prevent Liverpool from taking an early lead.
Rather than being intimidated by the task facing them, Hearts thrived in the first half, displaying the tenacity and desire that had characterised their performance in the first leg even though there were still occasions when Liverpool's superior quality was evident. The visiting team had a penalty appeal turned down after 26 minutes, when Callum Paterson tumbled in the penalty area under pressure from Jamie Carragher.
As has so often been the case when Liverpool come under pressure on such occasions, it was left to Steven Gerrard to lead from the front and the 32-year-old came close to scoring four minutes later when he raced into the box, evading a series of half-hearted challenges, only to be denied by the outstretched hand of Jamie MacDonald..
The scare was followed by a more serious one shortly after when Morgan thought he had capped his full debut with a goal, only for his close-range effort to be disallowed as it was ruled that Suarez had taken the ball out of play in the build-up.
Liverpool's struggle to break down the Hearts defence was testament to the visiting team's resolve but it also demonstrated that Rodgers is still toiling to get his own team playing in the manner he expects of them. Like Carroll, there are several other players that Rodgers has inherited whom he does not believe in and Jordan Henderson, in particular, did little to change his manager's opinion in a largely anonymous performance.
Suarez had missed one opportunity Wolverhampton Wanderers' reward for beating Northampton Town 3-1 away from home last night was a third-round tie away to Chelsea in the the Capital One Cup. There are five all-Barclays Premier League ties, with the two Manchester clubs both drawn at home.
Third-round draw: Manchester Utd v Newcastle United; Manchester City v Aston Villa; MK Dons v Sunderland; West Bromwich Albion v Liverpool; Crawley Town v Swansea City; Queens Park Rangers v Reading; Norwich City v Doncaster Rovers; Bradford City v Burton Albion; Preston North End v Middlesbrough; Arsenal v Coventry City; Southampton v Sheffield Wednesday; Chelsea v Wolverhampton Wanderers; Carlisle United v Tottenham Hotspur; Swindon Town v Burnley; West Ham United v Wigan Athletic; Leeds United v Everton.
Ties to be played week commencing September 24 when he dithered too long on the ball but was presented with another from an almost identical position and though he took the shot early his aim was errant and another chance went begging.
That was as nothing compared to the despair they felt after 84 minutes when Hearts brought the scores level on aggregate after a terrible mistake by Pepe Reina. David Templeton's shot from outside the penalty area should have been taken comfortably but the Liverpool goalkeeper allowed the ball to squirm from his grasp and across the line. That prompted renewed urgency from Liverpool and four minutes later they regained their lead when Suarez raced clear and beat MacDonald at his near post.

theguardian

Carroll joins West Ham in pounds 1.5m season-long loan

Liverpool will attempt to cover Andy Carroll's departure to West Ham United with an offer to sign Daniel Sturridge on loan from Chelsea on transfer deadline day.
Carroll left Anfield after Liverpool dropped demands for a guaranteed pounds 17m transfer to Upton Park in order to remove the England international from their wage bill.
Brendan Rodgers, whose side qualified for the Europa League group stage with a 2-1 aggregate win over Hearts last night, conceded there was risk in releasing Carroll without a replacement secured but is hopeful of "one or two" before tonight's 11pm deadline. A move for Clint Dempsey is highly unlikely
after Liverpool were unable to raise the funds to meet Fulham's pounds 7m asking price and a proposed swap with Jordan Henderson was rejected by the Anfield midfielder.
The Liverpool manager will attempt to land Sturridge on loan instead. Rodgers dismissed the prospect of signing the 22-year-old on Wednesday when Chelsea were holding out for a permanent pounds 15m deal. Their willingness to consider loan offers for Sturridge, however, has revived Rodgers' interest and softened his stance on resisting a temporary exit for Carroll.
"I've been given as much confidence as I can possibly get that we will have someone to come in," theLiverpool manager said. "I've said all along that I have Luis Suarez and Fabio Borini as front-line strikers and the young lads like Adam Morgan are getting experience but between now and January I need more than that. I am hoping for one or two. We need one, that's for sure."
Liverpool may raise further funds should Charlie Adam accept a pounds 4m move to Stoke City while Jay Spearing is expected to join Bolton Wanderers on a season-long loan. Rodgers has also told Joe Cole his first-team prospects will be severely limited this season but, despite a few inquiries, the former Chelsea player is unlikely to depart.
Carroll's exit, merely 19 months after his pounds 35m transfer from Newcastle United, saves Liverpool over pounds 4m with West Ham picking up his pounds 80,000 weekly wage. The 23-year-old was initially against joining West Ham, Fulham or Aston Villa, while Newcastle failed to offer a permanent transfer and Rodgers refused to consider a loan deal with Carroll's former club. But the prospect of being frozen out by Rodgers, andLiverpool's desperation to remove him from the wage bill by accepting a revised deal with West Ham, prompted a late change of heart.
West Ham had initially offered a pounds 2m loan fee with a guaranteed pounds 17m next summer should they avoid relegation. The final deal is a pounds 1m loan fee with an option to buy at the end of the season, not a guarantee. Rodgers said: "It is very simple: the club made a monumental investment in big Andy and at this moment in time he's not playing. He made it very clear that he wants to play games and obviously this is the last chance for him to go and do that. So that's it."
On the pitch Liverpool overcame a self-inflicted scare against Hearts to book their place in today's draw for the Europa League group stage. The Anfield club again laboured against their Scottish opponents but wasted several chances, mostly through Suarez, before calamitous goalkeeping from Jose Reina in the 84th minute allowed David Templeton's 22-yard shot to squirm over the line. With the tie level on aggregate and extra-time looming, Suarez evaded two Hearts challenges to beat Jamie MacDonald inside his near post and takeLiverpool through.
Liverpool 4-3-2-1
Reina; Kelly, Skrtel, Carragher, Downing; Gerrard, Allen, Shelvey; Morgan (Sterling, 62), Henderson (Borini, 76); Suarez.
Subs not used Jones, Johnson, Enrique, Agger, Coates.
Referee V Bezborodov (Rus)
Hearts 4-2-3-1
MacDonald; R McGowan, Zaliukas, Webster, Grainger*; Barr*, Taouil; Paterson, Templeton, Novikovas (Carrick, 75);
Sutton (Driver, 66).
Subs not used Hamilton, Robinson, Holt, D McGowan, McHattie.

Compiled by Graeme Riley

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30 August 2012

The Mail

LIVERPOOL'S LATE SAVIOUR; Suarez seals it after Reina's howler

1 LIVERPOOL
1 HEARTS
Liverpool win 2-1 on aggregate

LUIS SUAREZ'S 88thminute strike spared Pepe Reina's blushes as Liverpool progressed to the group stages of the Europa League despite their goalkeeper's late blunder.

The Liverpool goalkeeper was unable to hold David Templeton's speculative 85th-minute drive from outside the box, succeeding only in fumbling it over the line, but three minutes later Suarez raced down the left and fired past Hearts keeper Jamie MacDonald to equalise.

Brendan Rodgers' side progressed to the group stages with a 2-1 aggregate victory, thus ensuring that their sequence of protecting a first-leg European lead extended to a 33rd game, but prior to the late flurry of action only one man's name was being discussed.

There has been an inevitability surrounding Andy Carroll for much of the summer, so it should not surprise that he has moved on before the window has closed. The only shock, despite him saying it was 'a no-brainer', is that he has ended up at West Ham.

But as the dust started to settle on his move to Upton Park, some will have inevitably felt that Rodgers has taken a gamble in allowing an England forward to move on, particularly as Liverpool again struggled to take the chances that came their way.

There is no doubt Liverpool need to develop a ruthless streak, as they squandered a number of chances to make this a formality. As it was, they progress into today's draw for the group stages thanks to last week's own goal from Hearts defender Andy Webster.

As was the case in Edinburgh seven days ago, Liverpool's start was laboured and Hearts, brimming with industry, attempted to take advantage; Callum Patterson was the first to try his luck, cracking a shot just over the bar.

This was a significantly different test for Liverpool to the one they faced against Manchester City on Sunday, with the onus on them to push and press. On nights such as this, the Kop tend to be more reserved and waits before giving its judgment. There was little to excite them early on.

Liverpool did step up the tempo after 16 minutes, when Stewart Downing -- in the left-back role with which he may now have to become familiar -- sped forward and picked out Adam Morgan, whose knock-down found Suarez. For a striker of such wonderful ability, he should really have dispatched his opportunity but his header lacked power and gave Hearts captain Marius Zaliukas a chance to hook the ball clear from under the bar.

That should have settled the home crowd's nerves but the opposite was true and Hearts had one shout for a penalty when Patterson tumbled under a challenge from Jamie Carragher. There were appeals, but replays were inconclusive as to whether there was a case. Liverpool, as expected, responded and Steven Gerrard looked set to give them the lead after a surge into the penalty area but, after jinking past two challenges, his shot was pawed away by MacDonald.

This was Gerrard's 588th appearance for Liverpool but, to see him barking out orders, it is clear he retains the enthusiasm he had on his first 13 years ago. His drive was vital in keeping Liverpool on the front foot. He was involved in the move that looked as if it had brought his side the goal that would have effectively settled the tie but Morgan's delight was cut short after a linesman ruled Suarez had run the ball out before crossing for the 18-year-old.

For Morgan, it was a pity the goal was chalked off. When he marked his first appearance for the seniors with a goal during a friendly in Toronto last month, he celebrated as if he'd scored the winner in a Champions League final and a repeat was on the cards here.

Had Morgan scored on his competitive debut, it would have been a timely reminder that, after being so prolific at Academy level, he deserves a chance. On the day Liverpool signed another 18-year-old striker, Samed Yesil, from Bayer Leverkusen, a goal would have shown he is ready for the challenge.

More immediately, his goal would have ended Hearts' challenge but the visitors managed to get through to half-time with the scores all square. The longer it stayed that way, the more chance they had of springing a surprise.

There was a better pace to the hosts' play after the break and they should really have won the game emphatically but Suarez was guilty of wastefulness, shooting into the side-netting after being played in by Jordan Henderson, while Jonjo Shelvey went close with a thumping drive. In the end it didn't matter, though it could have been far worse for Liverpool.

MATCH FACTS

LIVERPOOL (4-2-3-1): Reina 6; Kelly 6, Skrtel 6, Carragher 6, Downing 7; Shelvey 6, Allen 7; Henderson 6 (Borini 76), Gerrard 7, Suarez 7; Morgan 7 (Sterling 62, 6). Subs not used: Jones, Johnson, Enrique, Agger, Coates. Scorer: Suarez 88.

HEARTS (4-2-3-1): MacDonald 7; R McGowan 7, Zaliukas 7, Webster 7, Grainger 7; Barr 6, Taouil 7; Paterson 6, Templeton 7, Novikovas 7 (Carrick 76); Sutton 6 (Driver 66, 6). Subs not used: Hamilton, Robinson, Holt, McGowan, McHattie. Scorer: Templeton 85. Booked: Barr, Grainger. Referee: V Bezborodov (Russia). Attendance: 44,361.

The Daily Telegraph

Relief for Rodgers as Suarez breaks Hearts at long last

Liverpool 1
Suarez 88
Hearts 1
Templeton 85
Att: 44,361

Liverpool win 2-1 on aggregate Liverpool were made to sweat for their place in the Europa League as Heart of Midlothian's stirring fightback ended in Anfield heartbreak.

Luis Suarez's individual brilliance on 87 minutes spared the blushes of Pepe Reina after his howler allowed Hearts to cancel out a 1-0 first-leg deficit. Reina looked to have sent the game into extra time after fumbling David Templeton's 84th-minute shot.

That sent the visitors into rapture, but the Uruguayan responded on an evening when the limitations of this Anfield squad were exposed by the gutsy Scottish Premier League side.

With a [pounds sterling]20million winger at leftback, a [pounds sterling]20million centre midfielder on the left wing, and a [pounds sterling]35million striker sent packing to West Ham, this was not a fine advert for the scouting expertise of Brendan Rodgers' predecessors. Jordan Henderson and Stewart Downing adopted unfamiliar roles - in fairness Downing looks capable at full-back - but the team sheet read like a statement to the Anfield board about the need for a hectic 24 hours.

Suarez misses more than he converts, a point underlined on 15 minutes when his far-post header was cleared by Marius Zaliukas.

Hearts brought the most vocal 'European' following to Anfield since Celtic's last appearance here in 2003. The Scottish champions won then,
knocking Liverpool out of this competition's former guise, the Uefa Cup.

John McGlynn harboured similar dreams as Liverpool toiled, an Adam Morgan shot from distance and Steven Gerrard run and shot needing most attention from keeper Jamie Macdonald. Academy graduate Morgan had a goal ruled out, harshly it seemed when Suarez's cross was deemed to have gone out before he passed to the youngster. But there was a resolve in the Hearts defence. Zaliukas and Andy Webster were exceptional.

McGlynn's game plan to keep the hosts at bay and ensure a nervous conclusion was working while the anticipated cavalry charge following the decision to start with Gerrard and Suarez had not materialised.

Rodgers decided to introduce Raheem Sterling after an hour in an attempt to transform an increasingly nervous mood. It should have yielded an instant reward, but Suarez provided more evidence of wastefulness twice in a minute. First he was sent clear by Henderson, dribbling past the keeper but too wide to shoot. Then on 63 minutes another strike from a tight angle flew wide.

Reina fumbled Templeton's unthreatening shot from distance and the game looked to be heading for another 30 minutes, but Suarez ran 20 yards and struck back to send a wave of relief across the Kop.

Liverpool (4-3-3): Reina; Kelly, Carragher, Skrtel, Downing; Allen, Shelvey, Gerrard; Morgan (Sterling 62), Henderson (Borini 76), Suarez. Subs: Jones, Johnson, Enrique, Agger, Coates.

Hearts (4-4-1-1): MacDonald; Grainger, McGowan, Barr, Webster, Templeton, Sutton (Driver 66), Taouil, Novikovas (Carrick 75), Zaliukas, Paterson. Subs: Hamilton, McGowan, McHattie, Holt, Robinson.

Referee: V Bezborodov (Russia).

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THE INDEPENDENT

Late Suarez goal breaks Hearts and spares Reina's blushes

Luis Suarez spared goalkeeper Pepe Reina's blushes - and some of his own - with the late goal that fired the Reds into the Europa League group stage at the expense of Hearts. Brendan Rodgers' side dominated the second leg of their qualifying round play-off at Anfield but were punished for not adding to their 1-0 aggregate lead when Reina let a David Templeton shot squeeze through with only five minutes remaining. Templeton seized on a clearance and took a couple of touches before firing at Reina. It was well struck but the Spanish keeper should still have dealt with it, only the ball to squirm through his grasp.

With extra time looming, Liverpool rallied and Suarez made amends for missing two earlier gilt-edged chances with a fine finish in the 88th minute.

It was a victory the Reds thoroughly deserved, played out against the backdrop of today's impending transfer deadline with [pounds sterling]35m striker Andy Carroll joining West Ham on loan last night.

"We were wasteful tonight but we got through, which was the most important thing," Rodgers said."Hearts worked hard but Jose Reina was never really threatened in goal. But we still needed to respond to their goal and we got that response. "We didn't lose the game which is important. The boys have been excellent so far this season, I can have no complaints."

Liverpool: Reina; Kelly,Carragher,Skrtel,Downing; Henderson (Borini, 76),Allen,Shelvey,Gerrard; Morgan (Sterling, 62),Suarez. Substitutes not used: Jones (gk),Johnson,Jose Enrique,Agger,Coates.

Hearts: MacDonald; Ryan, McGowan, Webster, Zaliukas, Grainger, Novikovas (Carrick, 75), Barr, Taouil, Paterson, Templeton, Sutton (Driver, 66). Substitutes not used: Hamilton (gk), Robinson, Holt, D McGowan, McHattie

Referee: V Bezborodov (Russia)

DAILY Mirror

SUAREZ BREAKS HEARTS; Reds need late Luis leveller

IF Brendan Rodgers felt he got the job done last night, then it came from events off the pitch, not on it.

The Liverpool manager was able to express the quiet satisfaction of a mission finally accomplished when Andy Carroll agreed a 12-month loan deal to seal an Anfield exit that had been coming since early July.

Yet there was much less a sense of credible achievement about this Europa League performance against a Hearts side who played with spirit and dignity to shock the English club by threatening to take the tie - incredibly - to extra time.

In the end, only the brilliance of Luis Suarez denied the Scots their moment of glory, and then only two minutes before the end of a game that started tamely enough, but finished with a pulsating frenzy that reverberated around Anfield.

Quite how Hearts threatened such a seismic shock is still something of a mystery given the strength of the team Rodgers fielded and Liverpool's 1-0 lead from the first leg at Tynecastle... but Pepe Reina will certainly figure in any reckoning.

Right until the end, the Scottish side clung tenaciously to the game by keeping Liverpool at bay. And as the clock ticked down and they needed just a single goal to extend proceedings, it was Reina who provided their lifeline.

With barely five minutes remaining, Martin Skrtel cleared a corner to the impressive David Templeton on the edge of the box. His shot was weak and straight at Reina, but somehow the keeper fumbled and squirmed the ball through his legs to gift the visitors a goal. If it were a horse race, then there would have been a stewards' inquiry. But alas for Hearts, they were still not quite over the finish line, as roused, Liverpool suddenly stung back with some ferocity.

With two minutes remaining, and with the visitors dreaming of an unlikely finish, he cut in from the left, and unleashed a shot that skimmed across the goal and into the far corner to well, break Hearts' hearts, so to speak.

It was cruel, but it gave Liverpool a passage into the group stages of this competition, even if their listless performance - and Reina's horror show - barely warranted it. Hearts must have feared the worst when they saw the team-sheet before kick off, and they were certainly nervous in the opening moments, as Suarez in particular caused panic in the visiting defence.

Yet as the contest progressed, the Scottish side grew into their predetermined role of plucky, tireless underdogs... and it actually suited them quite well.

With Mehdi Taouil energetic in swamping supply lines in the middle, and captain Marius Zaliukas organised and uncompromising at the back, Liverpool's less than interested approach led to little joy in a tame first period.

LIVERPOOL: Reina 3; Kelly 6, Skrtel 7, Carragher 6, Downing 7; Allen 7, Shelvey 6; Morgan 6 (Sterling 62,6), Gerrard 7, Henderson 6 (Borini 76), Suarez 6. HEARTS: Macdonald 8; McGowan 6, Webster 7, Zaliukas 7, Grainger 6; Barr 7, Taouil 8; Patterson 6, Templeton 7, Novikovas 7 (Carrick 76), Sutton 6 (Driver 66).

scotsman.com

Hearts' European adventure ends despite Reina blooper

HEARTS' hopes of pulling off an improbable recovery and reaching the group stages of the Europa League were eventually dashed last night – but only after they had come within three minutes of taking the tie into extra-time.

Scorers: Liverpool - Suarez (87); Hearts - Templeton (84)

Bookings: Hearts – Barr Attendance: 44,361

Watched by club owner Vladimir Romanov, the Edinburgh team had held out against wave after wave of Liverpool pressure, and then sensationally took the lead on the night with an 85th-minute goal by David Templeton.

That made the aggregate score 1-1, Liverpool having won the first leg thanks to an Andy Webster own goal. But then, with time running out, Luis Suarez spared his team's blushes with a fine individual goal which ensured his team won this qualifying tie 2-1 on aggregate. It was a disappointing end to an inspired evening from Hearts, who defended defiantly and sensibly throughout, while never losing sight of their need for an equaliser. A year on from the 0-0 draw at Tottenham, they had achieved another draw against a leading English side, with two significant differences. This time they had not begun the second leg 5-0 down. And this time, their squad was smaller, and with a lot less experience than a year ago. Given Hearts' fine performance in last week's first leg at Tynecastle, JohnMcGlynn predictably – and wholly justifiably – went with the same starting line-up. Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers had hinted at restoring some of his star names to the home 11, and he was true to his word, bringing in Steven Gerrard, Martin Skrtel and Suarez. Winger Raheem Sterling, such a threat at Tynecastle, was on the bench, as was the starting striker from a week ago, Fabio Borini. Callum Paterson quickly made his presence felt for Hearts, and his off-target shot in the fifth minute was the first attempt on goal from either side. A minute later Suarez made a dangerous run deep into the box before seeing his cross-cum-shot blocked, but on the whole Hearts kept Liverpool quiet in the opening exchanges. From around the quarter-hour, however, the home team began to press forward in more determined fashion. Stewart Downing, playing at left-back, showed his preference for attacking play in a swift foray down the wing. Suarez' looping header from his cross was goalbound, but Marius Zaliukas was able to hook the ball away just short of the line.

Hearts kept their shape well, and continued to push forward sensibly, and might have been rewarded with a penalty midway through the half after Paterson went down in the box following contact with Jamie Carragher. The Russian referee was well placed to judge the incident, though, and waved play on.

At the other end, Jamie MacDonald spilled an Adam Morgan shot but gathered the rebound just in time, and then Gerrard skipped through the middle of the Hearts defence but his chipped shot was parried by the goalkeeper. In the 33rd minute Morgan netted from a few yards out after a break up the right, but the assistant referee's flag was already up for an earlier offside, and Mr Bezborodov upheld his colleague's ruling. Hearts were penned back inside their own half for much of the time between then and the interval, but when the whistle went they could be satisfied with their efforts.

After the break, Liverpool barely concocted a decent attack during the first ten minutes. But the sight of Sterling warming up on the touchline was a warning that Rodgers was intent on cranking up the pressure, and the introduction of the winger for Morgan in the 61st minute signalled a marked increase in the tempo of the contest. Two minutes after the substitution, Suarez should have opened the scoring. As Zaliukas stood still and appealed for offside, the Uruguayan raced through the middle and took the ball wide of MacDonald, but carried it too far. By the time he had regained possession the defence were back to block.

Suarez then tried his luck again with a shot which spun wide of the target, and Sterling did the same less than a minute later. With Liverpool threatening to overrun his team, McGlynn brought Andy Driver on for John Sutton, with Paterson moving forward to replace the latter as the lonetarget man.

With 20 minutes left Suarez again looked odds-on to score as a defence-splitting pass put him through on MacDonald, but the goalkeeper threw himself at the attacker's feet and got to the ball first. Five minutes later, Dale Carrick came on for Arvydas Novikovas, who had run himself into the ground with some much-needed auxiliary defence. At the same time, Borini came on for Jordan Henderson. Hearts became more adventurous as time ebbed away, and with ten minutes left Mehdi Taouil tried his luck with a long-range shot, to no more effect than the similar efforts from Liverpool. Four minutes on, and Templeton tried something similar – and this time was repaid for his enterprise as Pepe Reina let the 20-yard shot squirm under his body and into the net.

Stung into life, Liverpool had five minutes in which to prevent the match going into the extra half-hour and Suarez struck in the 87th minute to spare his team. Using a combination of speed and close control to make his way deep into the left side of the box, he timed his shot perfectly this time, firing it low past MacDonald from an acute angle.

It was Hearts' turn to throw everything into the search for a goal to level the tie, but in stoppage time it was Liverpool who looked more likely to increase their aggregate lead. Even so, the home support felt relieved at the final whistle, while the away fans proudly stood to applaud their team off.

Liverpool: Reina, Carragher, Kelly, Skrtel, Gerrard, Henderson (Borini 76), Downing, Allen, Shelvey, Suarez, Morgan (Sterling 62). Subs not used: Jones, Johnson, Enrique, Agger, Coates.

Hearts: MacDonald, Grainger, McGowan, Barr, Webster, Zaliukas, Paterson, Templeton, Taouil, Sutton (Driver 66), Novikovas (Carrick 75). Subs not used: Hamilton, McGowan, McHattie, Holt, Robinson.

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LIVERPOOL ECHO

Luis Suarez spares Pepe Reina's Europa League blushes

ONE packed his bags, the other spared their blushes – it was a contrasting night for the most expensive striking double act in Liverpool FC's history.

For a long time the only drama came off the pitch as news of Andy Carroll's departure on a season-long loan spell to West Ham filtered through to the Anfield crowd. Having finally given up hope of offloading their £35million record signing on a permanent basis, Liverpool bit the bullet and accepted the Hammers' offer. It may only be a temporary stay but Carroll won't be back. His Reds career is over after 11 goals and 58 appearances.

Having dealt with one of the most glaring mistakes made in the club's past, manager Brendan Rodgers was forced to witness some present day bloopers as well. Liverpool should have cruised into the group stage of the Europa League against a spirited Hearts side but a succession of missed chances gave the Scots hope. A lack of a ruthless streak cost the Reds dear last season and it's a problem Rodgers is still clearly trying to find a solution to. Another striker before the window shuts tonight is a must.

It looked like that lack of firepower would matter little last night with Hearts rarely threatening. However, when Pepe Reina somehow allowed David Templeton's shot to slip through his hands with six minutes remaining extra time was looming. It was a shocking blunder from the Spaniard but thankfully the response from those in red was swift as Luis Suarez belatedly discovered his scoring touch to convert an 88th minute equaliser which secured the Reds' passage 2-1 on aggregate. Rodgers had vowed to field a strong line-up and was true to his word as Suarez, Steven Gerrard and Martin Skrtel all started after being rested for the first leg. It was a proud night for Academy graduate Adam Morgan. Having made his first team debut late on at Tynecastle, the 18-year-old striker from Halewood was handed his first start. The boss also carried on where he left off a week earlier by playing Stewart Downing at left-back having informed the England international that's where he believes his talents could be best utilised. Considering the fate which has befallen Carroll and Adam this summer, Downing can count himself fortunate he hasn't also been pointed in the direction of the exit door considering the lack of a return Liverpool have had on their £20million investment.

Being dropped to accommodate a 17-year-old Raheem Sterling against Manchester City last weekend have should acted as a wake-up call. No passengers will be allowed at Anfield this season. Shirts will be handed out on performance rather than reputation. In fairness Downing's response was positive. Solid defensively, his pace coming from deep was a useful attacking threat. He almost created an opening goal for the Reds inside nine minutes but his tempting cross somehow eluded Morgan in the middle. Gerrard latched on to the loose ball to tee up the youngster but he opted to take a touch and the chance went begging. Morgan grew in confidence as the first half wore on and continued to be in the thick of it. From another enticing Downing cross, he headed unselfishly back across goal. Suarez nodded it goalwards but visiting skipper Marius Zaliukas hacked off the line. It was Hearts' first ever visit to Anfield for a competitive fixture and their 3,000-strong travelling support were determined to make the most of it. They had their moments with Callum Paterson's dipping volley flying wide and then Mehdi Taouil scuffing a shot straight at Reina.

Paterson had pleas for a spot-kick waved away after theatrically tumbling in the box following a challenge from Jamie Carragher. At the other end Morgan cut inside menacingly off the right flank and unleashed a low 25-yarder which Jamie MacDonald gathered at the second attempt. Gerrard is only one goal away from equalling Michael Owen's club record of 12 goals in the competition and he went close to achieving that in style on the half hour mark.

The skipper's rampaging run into the box left Ryan McGowan and Andy Webster trailing but MacDonald was out to block. Twelve minutes before the break Morgan was in dreamland when he turned home Suarez's cross. However, his celebrations were curtailed by the assistant's flag with the ball having gone out of play before the Uruguayan pulled it back. Jonjo Shelvey went close from long range early in the second half but all for Liverpool's endeavour there was no punch in the final third. just past the hour Rodgers introduced Raheem Sterling with Morgan departing to a deserved standing ovation.

The introduction of the young winger had the desired impact but the Reds' wastefulness in the final third kept the tie alive. Suarez looked destined to score when he burst clear and went around the keeper but he opted to take another touch and saw McGowan deflect his shot on to the post.

Just seconds later Suarez spurned another golden opportunity created courtesy of Shelvey's perseverance as he blazed wide with the net gaping. The Reds could hardly be criticised for sitting back on their slender lead in the tie as they continued to press with Gerrard brilliantly thwarted by MacDonald.

However, they were rocked six minutes from time when David Templeton's speculative 25-yarder was inexplicably spilled over the line by Reina.

As the away fans rejoiced, Liverpool finally silenced them. Suarez left Zaliukas and from a tight angle clinically fired past the keeper. Relief engulfed Anfield. Embarrassment had been avoided. LIVERPOOL: Reina, Kelly, Carragher, Skrtel, Downing, Allen, Shelvey, Gerrard, Henderson (Borini 76), Suarez, Morgan (Sterling 61). Not used: Jones, Johnson, Enrique, Agger, Coates.

HEARTS: MacDonald, R McGowan, Webster, Zaliukas, Grainger, Novikovas (Carrick 76), Barr, Taouil, Paterson, Templeton, Sutton (Driver 66). Not used: Hamilton, Robinson, Holt, D McGowan, McHattie. Bookings: Bar, Grainger.

REFEREE: Vladislav Bezborodov (Russia).

ATTENDANCE: 44, 361.

LIVERPOOL DAILY POST

Spluttering progress to Europa League group stage underlines LFC's need for a striker

Brendan Rodgers's side saw off the plucky challenge of Hearts to progress in their Europa League final qualifying round tie.

The Scottish Cup winners had threatened to take the tie into extra time when Pepe Reina fumbled David Templeton's shot into his own net with six minutes remaining, only for Luis Suarez to nudge the hosts back ahead on aggregate four minutes later. It was just about enough to put Liverpool's name in the hat for today's group stages draw. But this was more about the players that weren't there, most notably Andy Carroll, the striker having accepted the inevitable and, with the game in progress, agreeing a season-long loan move to West Ham United. Rodgers has until tonight's transfer deadline to replace the England international. And if this spluttering performance was any indicator, he must surely have a replacement lined up; Liverpool need to bolster their attacking options and allowing Carroll to depart without a new face coming in would represent a huge gamble. Had they not realised already, Charlie Adam and Joe Cole – both sat in the stands last night – are also surplus to requirements for Rodgers, with Jay Spearing, another absentee, also seemingly on his way through the Anfield exit. So Liverpool just about protected a proud record of having never been eliminated from European competition after winning an away first leg.

Hearts had given Liverpool a real scrap at Tynecastle seven days earlier, beaten only when centre-back Andy Webster inadvertently turned Martin Kelly's low cross into his own net.

And they produced the same energetic display last night, the first visit of a Scottish team to Anfield since 2003, when Celtic won 2-0 tobecome the only team from north of the border to eliminate Liverpool from European competition.

The emergence of Raheem Sterling and arrival of Fabio Borini had prompted Rodgers to suggest Stewart Downing may have to reinvent himself as a left-back to extend his Anfield career.

Downing was given his first taste of life in defence last night as the Liverpool manager once again rotated his resources for the Europa League.

Adam Morgan, given a senior bow during a brief run-out in Scotland last week, was handed a full debut on the right of a three-pronged attack that saw Jordan Henderson on the left.

The 18-year-old homegrown talent, brought up in Halewood, was certainly enthusiastic enough, Arvydas Novikovas feeling the fullforce of one over-exuberant challenge from the youngster early on.

Morgan's involvement had perhaps been enough to persuade Carroll that, despite a preference to stay and fight for his place at Anfield, his future lies elsewhere.The youngster was denied a dream debut goal on 33 minutes when his strike was correctly chalked off after the referee's assistant adjudged Suarez to have taken the ball over the byline before crossing.

Morgan had also been involved in Liverpool's first chance on nineminutes. Having made a hash of his attempted header from a Downing cross, the young forward was given another opportunity from Suarez's retrieved pass but couldn't fire a shot away. The triumvirate featured again six minutes later, Morgan this time nodding a deep Downing delivery back across goal where Suarez's dangerous header was hacked away by Hearts skipper Marius Zaliukas.

The busy Morgan smashed a shot goalward that was too hot to handlefor Jamie MacDonald, the Hearts goalkeeper grabbing the ball at thesecond attempt.

But MacDonald was far more decisive on the half-hour with a fine parry to deny Steven Gerrard after the skipper had powered his waybeyond three defenders and into the area. It wasn't all one-way traffic, though. Hearts, encouraged by their performance in the first leg, pressed Liverpool continually and refused to let their hosts settle into any passing rhythm. Jonjo Shelvey fizzed a shot wide from range shortly after the interval as Liverpool began to slowly find their men with more regularity, the screw slowly being turned on their Scottish opponents.

Suarez wasted a gilt-edged chance on 64 minutes when, having been put clear by Henderson's pass, the Uruguayan took the ball too wide around MacDonald with his eventual effort deflected on to the post off RyanMcGowan.

Moments later, after Shelvey had done brilliantly to keep the ball in, Suarez turned Zaliukas but thrashed the ball beyond the far post. Gerrard swerved a 25-yard effort just wide and then drew a save off MacDonald's legs after substitute Sterling caused Hearts to flutter inside the penalty area.

Hearts made a late surge and, after Daniel Grainger saw a free-kick deflected over, Reina inexplicably fumbled Templeton's hopeful drive over his own goalline in the 84th minute. Extra time beckoned until, two minutes from time, Suarez, having raced 40 yards in on goal, backed himself against Zaliukas and then tucked the ball into the bottom corner.

MAN OF THE MATCH. Joe Allen. Another fine midfield display from the Wales international

Compiled by Graeme Riley

Date: 30 August 2012
Opposition: Heart of Midlothian
Competition: Europa League

Post	Times	Telegraph	Scotsman
	Guardian	Mirror	BBC
	Independent	Mail	Echo



BBC

90:00+2:19Full time The final whistle goes and the game is over.
90:00+1:23 Short corner taken by Luis Suarez.
90:00+1:16 Steven Gerrard delivers the ball, clearance by Andy Webster.
90:00+0:09 Free kick awarded for a foul by Andy Webster on Luis Suarez. Luis Suarez restarts play with the free kick.
87:23 The assist for the goal came from Steven Gerrard.
87:23Goal scored Goal - Luis Suarez - Liverpool 1 - 1 HeartsLuis Suarez fires in a goal from inside the area to the bottom right corner of the goal. Liverpool 1 (2)-(1) 1 Hearts.
85:21 Steven Gerrard crosses the ball in from the free kick, Andy Webster makes a clearance.
85:21Booking Daniel Grainger receives a yellow card.
85:15 Foul by Daniel Grainger on Raheem Sterling, free kick awarded.
84:03Goal scored Goal - David Templeton - Liverpool 0 - 1 HeartsA goal is scored by David Templeton from outside the box to the bottom left corner of the goal. Liverpool 0 (1)-(1) 1 Hearts.
83:32 Corner taken by Andrew Driver from the left by-line, Jonjo Shelvey makes a clearance.
82:30 Unfair challenge on David Templeton by Raheem Sterling results in a free kick. Strike comes in from Daniel Grainger from the free kick.
81:05 Steven Gerrard delivers the ball.
80:33 Jamie Carragher restarts play with the free kick.
80:33Booking Darren Barr is cautioned by the ref for unsporting behaviour.
80:17 Darren Barr gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Joe Allen.
79:08 Mehdi Taouil produces a right-footed shot from just outside the area that goes harmlessly over the target.
76:22 The referee penalises Dale Carrick for handball. Jose Reina takes the direct free kick.
74:40 Indirect free kick taken by Jamie MacDonald.
74:40Substitution SubstitutionFabio Borini replaces Jordan Henderson.
74:40Substitution SubstitutionDale Carrick on for Arvydas Novikovas.
74:40 Martin Skrtel is caught offside.
74:14 Short corner worked by Steven Gerrard.
74:02 Raheem Sterling takes a shot. Blocked by Daniel Grainger.
73:25 Unfair challenge on Jordan Henderson by Andrew Driver results in a free kick. Free kick taken by Jordan Henderson.
71:20 Outswinging corner taken right-footed by Steven Gerrard from the right by-line, clearance by Ryan McGowan.
71:06 Steven Gerrard takes a shot. Jamie MacDonald makes a save.
70:31 Luis Suarez concedes a free kick for a foul on Jamie MacDonald. Indirect free kick taken by Jamie MacDonald.
68:08 Effort from a long way out by Steven Gerrard goes wide right of the target.
67:57 Raheem Sterling sends in a cross, Ryan McGowan manages to make a clearance.
66:17 Martin Kelly produces a cross, Marius Zaliukas makes a clearance.
65:03Substitution SubstitutionAndrew Driver comes on in place of John Sutton.
65:03 Effort from outside the penalty box by Raheem Sterling goes wide left of the target.
64:11 Shot by Luis Suarez from deep inside the penalty area misses to the left of the target.
63:33 Jonjo Shelvey takes a outswinging corner from the right by-line to the near post, Callum Paterson manages to make a clearance.
63:23 Luis Suarez takes a shot. Blocked by Andy Webster.
62:34 Steven Gerrard takes a shot. Daniel Grainger gets a block in. Raheem Sterling sends in a cross, Jamie MacDonald makes a save.
60:50 Indirect free kick taken by Jamie MacDonald.
60:50Substitution SubstitutionRaheem Sterling joins the action as a substitute, replacing Adam Morgan.
60:50 Luis Suarez concedes a free kick for a foul on Jamie MacDonald.
60:13 Centre by Arvydas Novikovas, Stewart Downing makes a clearance.
59:07 Outswinging corner taken right-footed by Steven Gerrard, Martin Skrtel produces a header from the edge of the box and misses to the left of the target.
58:33 Outswinging corner taken right-footed by Steven Gerrard played to the near post, clearance made by Daniel Grainger.
57:21 The ball is sent over by Stewart Downing.
56:16 The ball is crossed by Stewart Downing, clearance by Daniel Grainger.
54:59 Jordan Henderson takes a shot. Darren Barr gets a block in.
54:12 Ryan McGowan delivers the ball.
53:19 Free kick awarded for a foul by Jordan Henderson on David Templeton. Indirect free kick taken by Andy Webster.
52:13 Adam Morgan is caught offside. Jamie MacDonald takes the indirect free kick.
52:00 The ball is swung over by Stewart Downing, Marius Zaliukas manages to make a clearance.
50:48 Jonjo Shelvey has an effort at goal from outside the area which goes wide left of the target.
49:32 Jonjo Shelvey takes a shot. Marius Zaliukas gets a block in.
49:03 Outswinging corner taken right-footed by Steven Gerrard played to the near post, clearance made by Callum Paterson.
48:39 Corner taken by Steven Gerrard from the right by-line to the near post, Andy Webster manages to make a clearance.
47:17 Unfair challenge on Darren Barr by Jordan Henderson results in a free kick. Free kick taken by Jamie MacDonald.
45:01 The referee blows his whistle to start the second half.
45:00+0:04Half time The ref blows to signal half-time.
44:27 Callum Paterson concedes a free kick for a foul on Jamie Carragher. Jamie Carragher takes the free kick.
43:59 Luis Suarez is flagged offside by the assistant referee. Direct free kick taken by Jamie MacDonald.
41:50 Free kick awarded for a foul by Jamie Carragher on Daniel Grainger. Free kick crossed by David Templeton, Jonjo Shelvey manages to make a clearance.
40:58 Outswinging corner taken right-footed by Steven Gerrard from the right by-line, Ryan McGowan makes a clearance.
40:51 Martin Kelly produces a cross, Daniel Grainger gets a block in.
39:34 David Templeton has shot on goal from just outside the box which goes wide of the right-hand upright.
37:31 The ball is swung over by David Templeton, save by Jose Reina.
34:44 David Templeton sends in a cross, Header by John Sutton from deep inside the penalty area misses to the left of the goal.
33:55 Unfair challenge on Steven Gerrard by Darren Barr results in a free kick. Free kick taken by Jose Reina.
31:08 David Templeton takes a shot. Blocked by Martin Skrtel.
29:23 Steven Gerrard takes a shot. Save by Jamie MacDonald.
26:56 Foul by Jamie Carragher on John Sutton, free kick awarded. David Templeton crosses the ball from the free kick right-footed from left channel, Andy Webster challenges Jamie Carragher unfairly and gives away a free kick. Jose Reina restarts play with the free kick.
26:29 Shot from 25 yards from Adam Morgan. Save by Jamie MacDonald.
26:05 Shot from just outside the box by John Sutton goes over the bar.
24:54 Luis Suarez gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Daniel Grainger. Daniel Grainger takes the direct free kick.
23:08 The ball is sent over by Martin Kelly.
22:47 Ryan McGowan challenges Jordan Henderson unfairly and gives away a free kick. Jonjo Shelvey takes the free kick.
22:20 Steven Gerrard takes a shot. Blocked by Marius Zaliukas.
20:06 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Joe Allen by John Sutton. Free kick taken by Martin Skrtel.
19:38 Free kick awarded for a foul by Martin Kelly on Marius Zaliukas. Free kick taken by Jamie MacDonald.
19:15 Arvydas Novikovas crosses the ball, Mehdi Taouil takes a shot. Jose Reina makes a comfortable save.
15:41 The ball is swung over by Ryan McGowan.
15:09 Adam Morgan challenges Callum Paterson unfairly and gives away a free kick. Free kick taken by Daniel Grainger.
14:41 A cross is delivered by Jonjo Shelvey, clearance by Callum Paterson.
14:24 Inswinging corner taken by Steven Gerrard from the left by-line, save by Jamie MacDonald.
13:58 The ball is sent over by Stewart Downing, Luis Suarez takes a shot. Blocked by Marius Zaliukas.
13:09 The assistant referee signals for offside against Adam Morgan. Jamie MacDonald takes the direct free kick.
9:50 Arvydas Novikovas produces a cross.
8:55 The ball is sent over by Stewart Downing.
7:35 The ball is swung over by Daniel Grainger, Jonjo Shelvey manages to make a clearance.
7:25 David Templeton delivers the ball, Martin Kelly gets a block in.
6:11 Foul by Adam Morgan on Arvydas Novikovas, free kick awarded. Free kick taken by Daniel Grainger.
5:03 Corner taken right-footed by Steven Gerrard to the near post, Callum Paterson manages to make a clearance.
4:53 Luis Suarez takes a shot. Marius Zaliukas gets a block in.
4:14 Callum Paterson has an effort at goal from outside the box which goes wide left of the target.
0:00 The ref blows the whistle to start the match.

Compiled by Graeme Riley