

Date: 31 October 2012 Opposition: Swansea City Competition: League Cup	Times	Telegraph	Echo		31 October 2012
	Guardian	Mirror	BBC		
	Independent	Mail	Evening Post		



Rodgers has haunted look after Swansea serve up treat

Liverpool 1 Swansea City 3 Of all the bloody noses that Swansea City have dished out since returning to the elite, it is hard to imagine that they have inflicted many more enjoyable blows than the one that knockedLiverpool and Brendan Rodgers, their former manager, out of the Capital One Cup last night.

A deserved win, their first at Anfield since 1967, took Michael Laudrup's side into the quarter-finals of the competition and illustrated once again that Rodgers still has much work to do before he can live up to the prediction of Huw Jenkins, the Swansea chairman, that he can become a great Liverpool manager.

Had it not been for Brad Jones, Swansea's two-goal margin of victory could have been greater as Liverpoollaboured badly before Luis Suarez and Steven Gerrard came off the substitutes' bench to provide some desperately needed quality.

Having turned down a move to Liverpool in the mid-1980s, Michael Laudrup was making his first visit to Anfield and he demonstrated his intent to take Swansea into the last eight for the first time in their history by naming a strong starting line-up. Rodgers, by contrast, made nine changes to the Liverpool side who drew with Everton on Sunday as he once again used the competition to test the strength of his squad.

Joe Cole, who made his League Cup debut against Swansea almost 14 years ago, was among those given an opportunity to impress, and Jordan Henderson was asked to fill in at right back. The only first-team regular on show for Liverpool was Joe Allen, signed from Swansea during the last transfer window.

Swansea settled quicker with Ki Sung Yueng dictating play in central midfield and Pablo Hernandez and Nathan Dyer carrying a genuine threat on the flanks. With Luis Suarez only a substitute, Liverpool lacked urgency and a cutting edge in attack as Cole struggled to pick up the pace of the game and Samed Yesil, an 18-year-old forward, demonstrated his rawness more often than his potential.

The style of football that Rodgers honed at Swansea was always going to remain evident under the guidance of Laudrup, another purist, and there were times during the first half when they outpassed and outplayedLiverpool.

They had done the same at Manchester City at the weekend only to suffer a narrow defeat but their sense of conviction was clearly intact despite that setback.

Jamie Carragher had already made one desperate block to prevent Hernandez from testing Brad Jones when Swansea should have taken the lead. Dyer found Jonathan De Guzman with a perfectly weighted pass but the winger appeared to lose his nerve as Jones raced from his line and sent a wayward chip high over the crossbar. Liverpool then attempted to impose themselves on proceedings as Stewart Downing chanced his arm from the edge of the box but Gerhard Tremmel saved with relative ease.

That, though, was the most significant threat that Liverpool posed before the interval and they were made to pay for their lethargy when Swansea took a deserved lead after 33 minutes. As at Goodison Park on Sunday, Liverpool were discomfited by a corner as Chico Flores soared above Sebastian Coates to score with a powerful header from De Guzman's centre.

"Brendan, Brendan, what's the score?" chorused the Swansea fans, their joy at going ahead given extra spice by who was on the receiving end.

So poor had Liverpool been that Rodgers felt compelled to introduce Suarez and Gerrard at the start of the second half. Not surprisingly, it was Yesil and Cole who were withdrawn with the latter having given yet another sub-standard performance.

Immediately before Raheem Sterling's introduction in the 65th minute, Liverpool almost equalised with Gerrard crashing a 25 yard shot against a post via a slight touch from Tremmel.

Jones made two saves in quick succession to deny the impressive Michu, who played a decisive role as Swansea doubled their lead, beating Jack Robinson to a loose ball on the halfway line and sending Hernandez clear. The winger carried the ball, looked up and picked out Dyer who was left with the simple task of rolling the ball into an empty net.

Liverpool brought themselves back into the game after 76 minutes when Suarez scored with a header from Gerrard's free kick. But Liverpool's response came to nothing and De Guzman embellished Swansea's victory with a stoppage-time tap in.

Liverpool (4-4-1-1): B Jones - J Henderson, J Carragher, S Coates, J Robinson - S Downing, J Allen, J Shelvey, O Assaidi (sub: R Sterling, 65min) - J Cole (sub: S Gerrard, 46) - S Yesil (sub: L Suarez, 46) . Substitutes not used: D Ward, Suso, M Skrtel, A Wisdom. Booked: Carragher.

Swansea City (4-4-1-1): G Tremmel - A Richards, C Flores (sub: G Monk, 58), A Williams, D Tiendalli - N Dyer, Ki Sung Yeung, L Britton, P Hernandez (sub: W Routledge, 76) - J De Guzman - Michu. Substitutes not used: D Graham, D Cornell, I Schechter, K Agustien, B Davies. Booked: Williams. Referee: L Probert.



Rodgers left forlorn by his Swansea old boys

Swansea City evidently do not regard pounds 5m compensation as enough for Brendan Rodgers. They exacted a greater punishment at Anfield to relieve Liverpool of their hold on the League Cup with a display their former manager described as "bright, creative, sharp and with good intensity". It was said with an envious, resigned tone.

While Rodgers reflected on the obvious shortcomings in the Liverpool squad, one that cannot cope without Luis Suarez and Steven Gerrard for even 45 minutes, Swansea revelled in his misery and their own club's moment of history. A first victory at Anfield since 1964 secured the Swans' debut appearance in the quarter-finals, where they will entertain Middlesbrough, and gave Michael Laudrup a night to savour against the club he supported as a boy. "We don't need you any more," sang the impressive following who made the journey from south Wales.

"To beat Liverpool at Anfield and reach the quarter-finals for the first time in the club's history is a fantastic achievement," said Laudrup, who started with seven of the players that began against Manchester City in the Premier League on Saturday. "The league is the most important thing, it is the daily bread, but I like the cups because it is pure competition. From the smaller club's point of view it is the shortest way to success. Our players won't play in a Champions League final or a World Cup final and this is the shortest way."

The tie proved to be everything Rodgers must privately have feared from the moment the draw was made. Swansea troubled Liverpool on the counterattack throughout, had a clear plan and the means to follow it, with Miguel Michu outstanding in attack and the visitors composed in midfield. Liverpool only threatened when behind to goals from Chico Flores and Nathan Dyer, with Suarez glancing home a Gerrard free-kick to offer belated hope, but a third in stoppage time from Jonathan de Guzman underlined the difference in penetration.

Liverpool had ambled during the first half with Joe Cole, Sebastian Coates and Stewart Downing wasting their opportunities to impress. Their tempo improved when Rodgers was forced to introduce Gerrard and Suarez at the interval but they did not convince all night. "The better team won," admitted Rodgers. "The introduction of Luis and Stevie changed things and we looked more like scoring after that but couldn't get the goal and got done with two breakaways."

Unlike Laudrup, Rodgers had rang the changes having played a near full-strength team against Anzhi Makhachkala in the Europa League three days before the Merseyside derby. Samed Yesil, a promising 18-year-old striker from Germany, started up front but was given little opportunity to make a mark by those around him. Liverpool's squad was shown to be painfully thin once more. Rodgers showed where Cole ranks in his affection, and the development required in Yesil, by withdrawing both at half-time. He had plenty of options for the hook.

"All you can do as a coach is to give players a chance to shine," the Liverpool manager lamented. "It is a thin squad but we can't keep playing Steven Gerrard and Luis Suarez. Joe Allen was virtually playing on his own in the first half in midfield with all due respect. This is where the club is at. I knew the size of the job here."

Liverpool were struggling from the moment Michu and Pablo Hernandez instigated a dominant 10-minute spell in the first half that produced several chances, one missed badly by De Guzman, before Flores beat Coates to a Dyer corner and sent an unstoppable header wide of Brad Jones in the Liverpool goal. Gerrard struck a post from 25 yards, courtesy of a fingertip save from Gerhard Tremmel, and Downing miscued the rebound as it flew hard but straight at him. For all Liverpool's greater urgency, however, Swansea looked the more likely to add a second.

The visitors queued up to double their advantage when Hernandez broke free on the left of the Liverpool area and forced a save from Jones at close range. The Australian international blocked the rebound, and another from Michu, before the forward teed up Dyer and Jamie Carragher blocked. Jones also saved well from Michu on the turn, Ashley Williams headed wide from the resulting corner and Dyer did apply the cushion of a second goal as Michu and Hernandez led a devastating break. Hernandez rolled the ball across Jones for Dyer to convert into an empty net.

De Guzman made the game safe in stoppage time with an almost identical finish to Swansea's second goal. The outstanding Michu broke clear down the left and rolled the ball perfectly across the Liverpool goal for the midfielder to slide home.

Liverpool 4-2-3-1
Jones; Henderson, Coates, Carragher*, Robinson;
Allen, Shelvey; Downing,
Cole (Gerrard, ht), Assaidi (Sterling, 65);
Yesil (Suarez, ht).
Subs not used Ward, Suso, Skrtel, Wisdom.
Referee L Probert.
Swansea 4-4-1-1
Tremmel; Richards, Flores (Monk, 58), Williams, Tiendalli; Dyer, Britton,
Ki, Hernandez (Routledge, 75); De Guzman; Michu.
Subs not used Graham, Cornell, Shechter, Agustien, Davies.

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The Mail

Rodgers feels the heat after Swans surge

LIVERPOOL 1
Suarez 76
SWANSEA 3
Chico 34, Dyer 72, De Guzman 90

BRENDAN Rodgers has had to ride some punches since he became Liverpool manager but this one will have hurt. Stood on the touchline, hands stuffed in his pockets, he listened as the Swansea supporters who once idolised him crowed that he was 'getting sacked in the morning' after the visitors produced a highly polished, lethal display that ended Liverpool's reign as holders of the Capital One Cup. Goals either side of half-time from Chico Flores and Nathan Dyer, and a late clincher from Jonathan de Guzman, gave Michael Laudrup's side a thoroughly deserved win.

Not even the introduction of Steven Gerrard and Luis Suarez could lift Liverpool above the distinctly ordinary. This was only Liverpool's second home tie in the League Cup since they were humbled by Northampton in September 2010 and while Rodgers made nine changes to the side that had drawn at Everton, he did not pick an inexperienced team. Mindful of the fact Liverpool have gone out at this stage the last four times they have been defending the trophy, the manager chose a team that cost more than [pounds sterling]60million but there was to be no blistering start from this Anfield collective.

If anything, Swansea's opening was much more assured. Laudrup had been similarly bold in his selection -- seven of those who started at Manchester City on Saturday began this contest -- and they were backed by an impressive, vocal following from south Wales.

Little has changed in terms of the style of play since Laudrup took over from Rodgers and one rat-a-tat-tat exchange that saw Pablo Hernandez and Michu exchanging passes ended with the Spanish winger having a shot blocked by a desperate challenge from Sebastian Coates.

Liverpool's response was immediate. A counter-attack on the half-hour saw a posse of white shirts trying to keep pace with Stewart Downing but his shot lacked the accuracy of that howitzer against Anzhi Makhachkala in the Europa League and was easily dealt with by Gerhard Tremmel.

Back came Swansea. Michu picked Joe Allen's pocket and charged 60 yards upfield, playing in Dyer. The winger wasted no time in picking out De Guzman but his chip lacked the accuracy to trouble Brad Jones.

The Australian keeper is enjoying his longest run of consecutive starts in Liverpool's goal but there was to be no clean sheet on this occasion as, after 34 minutes, Swansea deservedly took the lead with a goal that left their former manager wincing.

After Jones had turned Ki-Sung Yeung's 25-yard effort around the post, Dyer's outswinging corner was powered in by Chico from 12 yards after he had outmuscled and outmanoeuvred Coates.

That moment summed up everything about the first half. Swansea, all tenacity, drive and hunger, wanted things more than Liverpool and frequently looked as if they could pick holes in their opponents' defences.

For Rodgers to bring on Suarez and Gerrard after the break showed how seriously he was taking things and the response was immediate.

Within 90 seconds, Suarez had twice worked his way into goalscoring positions and headed a chance over the bar from Jonjo Shelvey's cross over the bar.

Liverpool continued to press but, as has so often been the case, their possession brought no final punch. It was going to take something different to open Swansea up and Gerrard came close with a 25-yard drive that Tremmel tipped on to the post.

Downing should have finished the follow-up but he scuffed his effort horribly wide and Liverpool almost paid an immediate penalty. Jones needed to be at his best to keep out a Michu shot before Jamie Carragher charged down a blockbuster from Dyer.

The winger put Swansea 2-0 ahead when he finished another rapier break after 72 minutes but Suarez gave Liverpool hope when he headed home four minutes later. Swansea put the seal on a fantastic performance when Michu sped away down the right and squared for De Guzman, who slotted into an empty net deep into injury time.

The Daily Telegraph

Dyer delight as Airfield's fringe men fluff lines

Liverpool 1
Suarez 76 Swansea City 3
Chico 34, Dyer 72, De Guzman 90 Att: 37,521

Michael Laudrup already has a place in Anfield history as the greatest player Liverpool nearly bought. Last night he belatedly enjoyed a career landmark in front of the Kop by masterminding Swansea's victory over the League Cup holders.

Nathan Dyer's and Jonathan de Guzman's second-half tap-ins ensured Brendan Rodgers was undone by his former charges, despite a late home rally led by Luis Suarez.

For Laudrup, who almost joined Liverpool when Bob Paisley was in charge in 1983, this was his sweetest moment since replacing Rodgers last summer.

The League Cup has become a showcase for cast-offs and potential stars of the future, and that was reflected in Rodgers' line-up.

Joe Cole has been welcomed back from the wilderness more often than Bear Grylls and he was offered another chance to make an impression. His return lasted 45 dire minutes before his manager evidently lost patience again, summoning a cavalry charge from the bench earlier than anticipated.

Stewart Downing and Jordan Henderson were also included in the starting line-up, the latter as a rightback, while in the absence of a senior striker other than Suarez, 18-year-old Samed Yesil was included for his Anfield debut. Such was the disjointed performance, the Anfield crowd was already counting down the minutes until substitutes Suarez and Steven Gerrard were introduced, with the Liverpool extras fluffing their in every scene. The dynamic pair arrived at half-time, offering more confirmation if any of how reliant Liverpool are on their captain and only fit goalscorer.

Swansea had already taken advantage. What they might not know about some of Rodgers' players, they compensated for with their insight into his system.

At first it made for a sedate game, both sides demonstrating an ability to pass the ball to no one in particular.

But the Welsh side looked increasingly likely to strike first as their confidence grew. Nathan Dyer would have been granted a one-on-one with Brad Jones had he controlled Ashley Williams 20-yard, angled pass.

Dyer then turned provider for Jonathan de Guzman after an excellent Swansea move, but the Dutchman's attempted delicate chip over the advancing Jones was heavy and drifted over.

The pressure on Jones' goal continued, with Ki Sung-Yueng forcing the Australian to push wide a 25-yard strike. From De Guzman's resulting 34th-minute corner, Chico Flores rose to power his header home in front of the delirious Welsh fans, the least their side deserved for their increasing dominance.

Pablo Hernandez and Michu were relishing the grand stage, their onetouch football probably earning the admiration of the Liverpool manager were it not his side being exposed.

An equaliser almost immediately followed Suarez and Gerrard's arrival. Shelvey smashed over on 47 minutes after Joe Allen's midfield burst, and Suarez headed over from close range. Suarez, as usual, threatened every time he took up possession, although often with a mixed final product.

Swansea lost Flores after 58 minutes with a groin problem as they were increasingly forced into a rearguard action. But they still managed to counter-attack and Michu struck over. Their second goal arrived after 73 minutes, when the outstanding Hernandez fed Dyer to tap-in in front of the stunned Kop.

Suarez responded after 77 minutes, heading Gerrard's free-kick past Tremmel to keep Laudrup sweating.

It could easily have ended 7-5 such were the chances at both ends late on, but de Guzman tapped in for 3-1 in injury time and the Danish legend was content to settle for a famous scoreline in his club's history and his management career.

Liverpool (4-3-3) Jones; Henderson, Carragher, Coates Robinson; Cole (Gerrard 46), Allen, Shelvey; Downing, Yesil (Suarez 46), Assaidi (Sterling 65). Booked Carragher Swansea (4-4-2) Tremmel; Tiendelli, Chico (Monk 58), Williams, Richards; Hernandez (Routledge 75), Yeung, Britton, Dyer; Michu, De Guzman. Referee: L Probert (Wiltshire)

Gerrard says sorry

Steven Gerrard, the Liverpool and England captain, has withdrawn his claims likening Everton to Stoke and said he 'went too far' with his postmatch comments.

Gerrard, who made his initial observations immediately after the 2-2 draw last Sunday, said he had a different view of the game 48 hours later. Gerrard offered a more conciliatory tone when he said: "I've watched the game again, and I've seen some of Everton's matches this season. What I said in relation to their style of play went too far.

"It wasn't my intention to disrespect Everton, or Stoke for that matter."

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Red-faced Rodgers left livid by 'slow' Cole

Winning the League Cup did not save Kenny Dalglish and losing it will not damn Brendan Rodgers but this was another bitter Anfield night for the Liverpool manager.

By the end he had to listen to some especially ungrateful chants of "We don't need you anymore" from the Swansea fans who had once idolised him. His successor, Michael Laudrup, pointed out that most of the side that had taken Swansea to a League Cup quarter final for the first time had not played under Rodgers. Football was, somewhat cruelly, moving on.

However, Swansea's football philosophy remained the same, emphasised by the way first Nathan Dyer and then Jonathan de Guzman almost walked the ball into the net beneath the Kop to finish superbly judged counter-attacks Rodgers would have recognised.

There are some managers who would timidly have abandoned a run in the competition on the grounds that it might endanger their survival in the Premier League. Laudrup made the point that he was managing footballers unlikely ever to play in a European Cup final and this was "our chance to dream". It was, like Swansea's football, refreshing.

The several thousand who had travelled the miles of rain-slicked motorways that separate south Wales from Merseyside began their dreaming when the tie was 34 minutes old. The only oddity in a match between two sides bred on pure passing football was that it came from a headed corner.

The head belonged to Chico Flores, the defender who had played for Laudrup at Real Mallorca. Having out-jumped Sebastian Coates, Flores tried to celebrate with a cartwheel and fell flat on the floor. You assumed that at school in Cadiz he was better at football than PE.

Rodgers's team, by contrast, emphasised only that Liverpool have neither the depth nor the quality of squad to make wholesale changes. There was insurance on the bench in the shape of Luis Suarez and Steven Gerrard. It was a policy Rodgers needed to cash in at half time.

Each had a considerable impact. The Liverpool captain sent a trademark shot from outside the area thundering against a post, rebounding for Stewart Downing, who somehow failed to score. Gerrard's free-kick was then met by an impish header from Suarez and suddenly, briefly, the tie was alive.

It was killed off by Swansea's thunderous counter-attacks, which produced two goals. The first saw three white shirts streaming forward with nobody bar Brad Jones in front of them. Pablo Hernandez merely had to square the ball for Dyer and Liverpool's hold on the League Cup was all but severed.

The arrival of Gerrard and Suarez meant the end for Samed Yesil, a young footballer with his footballing future ahead of him and Joe Cole, who is paid [pounds sterling]90,000 a week to sit on the sidelines.

Had he taken a pay cut and made his move to Lille permanent, the former England midfielder might have been preparing for a Champions League fixture at Bayern Munich next Wednesday. Instead, his choices have led him back to the shadows. Afterwards, Rodgers' assessment was damning, leaving Cole under no uncertain terms as to his manager's feelings. "I can't keep playing Steven Gerrard and Luis Suarez while Joe Allen was virtually playing on his own in midfield," he said. "Joe Cole had an opportunity, the club has invested a astronomical sum of money on a talented player and he has to seize his opportunities.

"It was too slow, it just was not what I would expect from a team I had set up to be dynamic so I think it was a difficult night for him." It is likely to be his last in a Liverpool shirt.

LIVERPOOL

SWANSEA CITY

Substitutes: Liverpool Gerrard (Cole, h-t), Suarez (Yesil, h-t), Sterling (Assaidi, 65). Swansea Monk (Chico, 58), Routledge (Hernandez, 75).

Booked: Liverpool Carragher.

Man of the match Chico. Match rating 7/10.

Possession: Liverpool 42% Swansea 58%.

Attempts on target: Liverpool 10 Swansea 10. Referee L Probert (Wilts).

Attendance 37,521



'Sacked in the morning...': Rodgers taunted as Swansea knock out holders Liverpool

Halloween is a night when the kids normally come out to play.

But as Liverpool crashed out of the Capital One Cup after another embarrassment in this competition, the fact they couldn't use the excuse of playing their youngsters spoke volumes about the affliction gripping the club at present.

Most big clubs use these evenings to blood their next generation, but given the Reds already do that in the Premier League, it was the highly paid old guard who were wheeled out to demand trick or treats as the kids were rested.

Predictably, depressingly, opponents Swansea decided on the trick option as they dominated the game and thoroughly deserved their passage through into the quarter final, their fine performance exposing in the process the mess the home side are in.

The likes of Stewart Downing and Jordan Henderson - who cost near £40million between them - and £6million-a-year man Joe Cole can't get near the first team and are only used when teenagers like Raheem Sterling and Suso are rested.

It is obscene really, that so much money has been wasted, but it is a reality manager Brendan Rodgers is already resigned to, given he didn't buy them, and is struggling to offload them on such salaries.

For Rodgers, as the Welsh fans who used to adore him sang "you're getting sacked in the morning", it was the ultimate hurt on a night that proved beyond doubt the size of the task he has on his hands.

Afterwards, he admitted it is a huge problem, that will take time to resolve.

"The best team won here, that is the truth of the matter, and it shows the size of the job - I know how much work is required.

"We have a very, very small, very thin squad, and when you give players opportunities and they don't take them, then there are even less to choose from.

"You look at Joe Cole, he's a talented player the club paid an astronomical amount of money for and this was an opportunity for him.

"But we were too slow, and it just wasn't what I expected from a team set up to be dynamic so it was disappointing from him."

Cole wasn't alone, and none of the big paid players Rodgers wants out did little to dissuade him from that course.

Basically, Liverpool have the stars like Gerrard and Suarez the manager turned to at half time to save his team, and then the kids. And nothing in between.

It showed here. In the first half Swansea took control and took the lead after half an hour, but even before keeper Brad Jones was Liverpool's best player, saving from Hernandez, Guzman and then Dyer.

But after he turned another shot wide with a fine save from Ki-Sung Yeung, from the resulting de Guzman corner, Chico Flores was incredibly allowed to rise unchallenged within the six yard box to head powerfully home.

Liverpool dismissed Cole at half time for what will surely be his last game, but even the cavalry of Gerrard, Suarez and young Sterling couldn't save them, with the visitors continuing to play brilliantly on the break, as they again produced some fine saves from Jones.

But on 73 minutes Dyer was sent in on the left thanks to a fine move involving the excellent Michu and Hernandez, and he converted brilliantly. Suarez did pull one back from Gerrard's free kick, but de Guzman had the last laugh in the final minute of stoppage time when he converted from close range after another astute ball from Michu.

Afterwards, manager Michael Laudrup - who once turned Liverpool down as a player - admitted it was a fine start to his managerial career in England.

"We played a great game and for the team to win at Anfield for the first time, and reach the quarter finals for the first time, and for me to get a win here on my first visit as a manager, it's a magnificent night."

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	Guardian	Mirror	BBC		
	Independent	Mail	Evening Post		

	couldn't take them. Liverpool's misery was complete in stoppage time when Michu crossed for De Guzman to convert. MATCH FACTS Liverpool (4-2-3-1): Jones, Henderson, Carragher, Coates, Robinson, Allen, Shelvey, Cole (Gerrard 46), Downing, Yesil (Suarez 46), Assaidi (Sterling 65). Not used: Ward, Suso, Skrtel, Wisdom. Swansea (4-4-1-1): Tremmel, Chico (Monk 59), Richards, Williams, Tiendalli, Hernandez (Routledge 76), Britton, Ki, Dyer, de Guzman, Michu. Not used: Cornell, Graham, Shechter, Agustien, Davies. Referee: Lee Probert (Wiltshire) Attendance: 37, 521 Goals: Flores 34, Dyer 72, Suarez 77, De Guzman 90+4. Bookings: Carragher, Williams. Man of the match: Brad Jones. Kept the Reds in the tie with a string of fine saves.  Oh, what a night! LIVERPOOL have the bulging trophy cabinet, the worldwide fanbase and the multimillion pound stars, but it is Swansea City who are in the Capital One Cup quarter-final. Brendan Rodgers will surely have better days at Anfield, but this was Swansea's night. Swansea's former boss was not booed by his old club's fans, but they enjoyed rubbing his nose in it as Michael Laudrup's men humbled the holders in style. Chico Flores, Nathan Dyer and Jonathan de Guzman scored the goals which earned Swansea only a second victory on this ground in 17 visits – and took them into the last eight of this competition for the first time. This was a clash between the old and the new in the dugouts, the one-time darling of the Liberty against the man now on the throne in SA1. Inspire These days Rodgers is trying to win the hearts of the Liverpool crowd, while Laudrup attempts to inspire more progress at Swansea despite the great strides taken under his predecessor. Both men have bigger fish to fry than the League Cup this season – but the line-ups here indicated that both were keen to get through. Laudrup made only four changes to the side which lost at Manchester City – and two of them were enforced – while Rodgers rested nine of his weekend starters but still picked a team boasting plenty of experience and quality. Yet the likes of Joe Cole, Stewart Downing and Swansea old boy Joe Allen struggled to influence the game as the visitors took control of the first half. When Liverpool did press, the outstanding Ashley Williams led the rearguard effort, with Gerhard Tremmel required to make only one first-half save when Downing let fly from distance. For the most part, though, Swansea were on the front foot. Their passing was sharper, crisper and more precise, and it was only right that they turned round with the lead. Pablo Hernandez was busy on the Swansea left, the former Valencia man flashing a couple of shots over the top and seeing another effort blocked by Jamie Carragher after a neat exchange with Michu. Williams's 40-yard pass opened Liverpool up, but Dyer miscontrolled and the chance was gone. On the half hour, Dyer was involved again in a move which should have brought the opening goal. Michu got away with a foul on Allen – whose name was sung by the travelling fans before kick-off – and fed Dyer, who squared for de Guzman. But with only Jones to beat, the midfielder lifted his shot over the bar. Swansea came again, the impressive Ki Sung-Yueng forcing a smart save from Brad Jones with a 30-yard drive. And the breakthrough came from the corner which followed, Flores planting a header in the far corner from de Guzman's delivery. Flores did a tumbling handstand in front of the Swansea support, who were soon poking fun at Rodgers. First they asked for the scoreline then, amusingly, suggested — in slightly cruder terms — that Liverpool were just an inferior version of Swansea. Rodgers responded at the break, sending on star men Steven Gerrard and Luis Suarez, and straightaway the hosts looked better. Jonjo Shelvey fired just over after Jazz Richards's loose ball, Suarez nodded too high with almost his first touch. Garry Monk entered the fray with Swansea on the back foot for the first time, Flores limping off holding his thigh. Gerrard's long-ranger brought Swansea's first big scare, Tremmel pushing on to the post and then watching in relief as Downing dragged the rebound wide. Swansea came back into it, as a mighty scramble saw Jones save from Hernandez and Michu and then Carragher block Dyer's effort. Next Michu's drive was tipped over before Swansea doubled their lead with an extraordinary breakaway goal which began in their own box. From scrambling clear, Swansea were suddenly in on goal when Michu fed Hernandez. And when he centred for Swansea's opposite winger, Dyer slid the ball home. Liverpool responded, Suarez finding far too much space to head home Gerrard's free-kick. That meant 20 nervous minutes – before another Swansea breakaway ended with de Guzman tapping home his first goal for the club deep in stoppage time to seal a famous victory.
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	Guardian	Mirror	BBC		
	Independent	Mail	Evening Post		

BBC

90:00+5:30Full time The game is over, as the referee blows his whistle.
90:00+3:57 Miguel Michu provided the assist for the goal.
90:00+3:57Goal scored Goal - Jonathan de Guzman - Liverpool 1 - 3 SwanseaJonathan de Guzman scores a goal from close range low into the middle of the goal. Liverpool 1-3 Swansea.
90:00+3:25 Luis Suarez takes a shot. Save by Gerhard Tremmel.
90:00+1:41 Luis Suarez has an effort at goal from just outside the area which goes wide of the left-hand post.
90:00+0:43 Stewart Downing crosses the ball, Garry Monk manages to make a clearance.
87:58 The ball is sent over by Steven Gerrard, save made by Gerhard Tremmel.
85:19 Raheem Sterling has an effort at goal from just outside the box which goes wide of the right-hand post.
85:02 The ball is sent over by Stewart Downing, Ashley Williams manages to make a clearance.
84:44 Luis Suarez takes a shot. Gerhard Tremmel makes a save.
83:29 Raheem Sterling takes a shot. Blocked by Garry Monk.
82:41 Unfair challenge on Sung-Yeung Ki by Jonjo Shelvey results in a free kick. Free kick taken by Garry Monk.
82:41 Unfair challenge on Sung-Yeung Ki by Jonjo Shelvey results in a free kick. Direct free kick taken by Garry Monk.
81:30 The ball is swung over by Luis Suarez, clearance made by Dwight Tiendalli.
80:47 Jordan Henderson produces a cross, Gerhard Tremmel makes a save.
79:57 Stewart Downing takes a shot. Save made by Gerhard Tremmel.
79:04 Ashley Williams concedes a free kick for a foul on Luis Suarez. Joe Allen restarts play with the free kick.
78:27 Miguel Michu takes a shot. Save made by Brad Jones.
77:54 Miguel Michu is ruled offside. Indirect free kick taken by Joe Allen.
77:14 Centre by Stewart Downing.
75:59 The assist for the goal came from Steven Gerrard.
75:59Goal scored Goal - Luis Suarez - Liverpool 1 - 2 SwanseaLuis Suarez finds the net with a headed goal from inside the penalty box. Liverpool 1-2 Swansea.
75:41 Ashley Richards challenges Raheem Sterling unfairly and gives away a free kick. Centre by Steven Gerrard,
74:44Substitution SubstitutionWayne Routledge comes on in place of Pablo Hernandez.
73:25 Unfair challenge on Nathan Dyer by Joe Allen results in a free kick. Direct free kick taken by Jonathan de Guzman.
72:55 The ball is crossed by Jack Robinson, save made by Gerhard Tremmel.
71:40 Assist on the goal came from Pablo Hernandez.
71:40Goal scored Goal - Nathan Dyer - Liverpool 0 - 2 SwanseaNathan Dyer gets on the score sheet with a goal from close range low into the middle of the goal. Liverpool 0-2 Swansea.
70:39 Free kick awarded for a foul by Ashley Williams on Luis Suarez. Free kick crossed by Steven Gerrard, Ashley Richards makes a clearance.
68:14 Outswinging corner taken by Jonathan de Guzman, Ashley Williams has a headed effort at goal from close in which goes wide left of the target.
68:01 Miguel Michu takes a shot. Save made by Brad Jones.
67:17 Effort from outside the penalty box by Leon Britton goes wide left of the goal.
67:05 Jonathan de Guzman produces a cross, Brad Jones makes a save.
66:33 Jonathan de Guzman takes a outswinging corner to the near post, clearance made by Steven Gerrard.
66:23 Miguel Michu takes a shot. Blocked by Jamie Carragher.
66:04 Pablo Hernandez takes a shot. Save by Brad Jones.
65:14 Jordan Henderson produces a cross, save by Gerhard Tremmel.
65:08 Centre by Steven Gerrard, Ashley Williams manages to make a clearance.
64:09Substitution SubstitutionRaheem Sterling comes on in place of Oussama Assaidi.
63:55 Stewart Downing produces a right-footed shot from deep inside the penalty box which goes wide of the left-hand upright.
63:39 Steven Gerrard takes a shot. Save made by Gerhard Tremmel.
61:44 The ball is delivered by Oussama Assaidi.
58:32 The ball is crossed by Steven Gerrard, Ashley Williams manages to make a clearance.
57:32Substitution SubstitutionGarry Monk comes on in place of Chico.
56:03 Luis Suarez takes a shot from just outside the penalty area which clears the crossbar.
54:28 Oussama Assaidi crosses the ball, clearance by Dwight Tiendalli.
51:46 Unfair challenge on Luis Suarez by Chico results in a free kick. Direct free kick taken by Jonjo Shelvey.
50:26 The referee blows for offside against Miguel Michu. Brad Jones takes the free kick.
49:17 Headed effort from deep inside the penalty area by Luis Suarez goes harmlessly over the crossbar.
47:52 Jack Robinson gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Nathan Dyer. Chico takes the direct free kick.
46:27 Shot on goal by Jonjo Shelvey from inside the box goes harmlessly over the target.
45:01 The referee blows his whistle to start the second half.
45:01Substitution SubstitutionSamed Yesil goes off and Luis Suarez comes on.
45:01Substitution Liverpool makes a substitution, with Steven Gerrard coming on for Joe Cole.
45:00+1:41Half time It is the end of the first-half.
45:00+1:05 Direct free kick taken by Leon Britton.
45:00+1:05Booking Jamie Carragher goes into the referee's book for unsporting behaviour.
45:00+1:00 Free kick awarded for a foul by Jamie Carragher on Miguel Michu.
44:26 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Nathan Dyer by Jack Robinson. Free kick taken by Leon Britton.

43:39 Stewart Downing produces a cross, Ashley Williams manages to make a clearance.
42:08 Pablo Hernandez has an effort at goal from outside the penalty box missing to the wide right of the goal.
40:50 Effort from the edge of the box by Stewart Downing goes wide of the left-hand post.
39:20 Samed Yesil takes a shot. Blocked by Ashley Williams.
38:44 Free kick awarded for a foul by Chico on Samed Yesil. Jack Robinson restarts play with the free kick.
38:34 The ball is crossed by Pablo Hernandez, clearance made by Jamie Carragher.
36:04 Free kick awarded for a foul by Jonjo Shelvey on Sung-Yeung Ki. Direct free kick taken by Chico.
34:38 Joe Cole takes a shot. Save by Gerhard Tremmel.
33:39 Jonathan de Guzman provided the assist for the goal.
33:39Goal scored Goal - Chico - Liverpool 0 - 1 SwanseaChico finds the back of the net with a headed goal from inside the six-yard box. Liverpool 0-1 Swansea.
33:18 Jonathan de Guzman takes a outswinging corner from the right by-line played to the near post,
33:05 Sung-Yeung Ki takes a shot. Save by Brad Jones.
32:23 Sung-Yeung Ki takes a shot. Blocked by Sebastian Coates.
31:46 The ball is crossed by Stewart Downing.
30:43 Joe Allen takes a shot. Blocked by Sung-Yeung Ki.
30:31 The ball is sent over by Oussama Assaidi, clearance by Ashley Williams.
29:55 Shot from deep inside the area by Jonathan de Guzman goes over the bar.
28:33 A cross is delivered by Stewart Downing, clearance made by Ashley Williams.
28:24 Corner taken short by Stewart Downing.
27:59 Stewart Downing takes a shot. Save by Gerhard Tremmel.
26:54 Outswinging corner taken by Jonathan de Guzman from the right by-line.
24:59 Pablo Hernandez takes a shot. Blocked by Jamie Carragher.
21:11 Foul by Jonathan de Guzman on Stewart Downing, free kick awarded. Jordan Henderson restarts play with the free kick.
19:11 Jamie Carragher gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Nathan Dyer. Direct free kick taken by Chico.
18:23 Shot from long distance by Sung-Yeung Ki misses to the right of the target.
16:04 Stewart Downing has an effort at goal from outside the box which goes wide right of the goal.
14:27 Oussama Assaidi delivers the ball, clearance by Ashley Williams.
13:11 Pablo Hernandez takes a shot from just inside the penalty box which clears the bar.
11:34 The ball is sent over by Jonathan de Guzman, save made by Brad Jones.
11:01 Jordan Henderson delivers the ball, Ashley Williams manages to make a clearance.
9:43 The referee blows for offside. Sung-Yeung Ki takes the indirect free kick.
9:10 Corner from left by-line taken by Stewart Downing.
6:10 The assistant referee flags for offside against Miguel Michu. Jack Robinson takes the indirect free kick.
5:58 A cross is delivered by Jack Robinson.
3:51 The ball is delivered by Stewart Downing.
0:00 The referee gets the game started.