

Compiled by Graeme Riley

Date: 11 November 2012 Opposition: Chelsea Competition: League	Post	Times	Telegraph	Echo		11 November 2012
		Guardian	Mail	Evening Standard		
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The Mail

SUAREZ DENIES BLUES

Chelsea 1
Liverpool 1

FOR Roman Abramovich, the painful irony is that, on the day he handed Liverpool [pounds sterling]50million for Fernando Torres, this was the sort of afternoon he was hoping to avoid. The one in which Chelsea dominate, yet fail to close the deal. The one in which chance after chance slips away. The one in which the old warrior, John Terry, is forced to do the job the forwards cannot.

It is incredible to think that, take away Terry's unmarked header after 20 minutes and Chelsea could even have lost. Having dominated the first half, they allowed Liverpool back into the game and by the end were clinging on for a point. Four minutes into injury time, Luis Enrique -- a real aggravation for Chelsea -- hit a low shot which produced a vital save from Petr Cech.

There would have been no way back for Roberto di Matteo's team had that gone in, their own nightmare Shakhtar Donetsk moment. It may have been a travesty considering Chelsea's supremacy, but the Ukrainian side probably felt the same about their injury-time defeat here last Wednesday.

That Chelsea are not two points nearer to leaders Manchester United is not solely Torres's fault, but a cheque for [pounds sterling]50m usually brings some guarantee of match-winning goals. Not to mention cheques for [pounds sterling]23.5m (Juan Mata), [pounds sterling]32m (Eden Hazard), [pounds sterling]20m (Oscar) plus sundries of [pounds sterling]9m (Victor Moses) and [pounds sterling]3.5m (Daniel Sturridge). It certainly lends fresh currency to the cliché about not being able to buy a goal.

It will not be lost on Chelsea's owner that, for all his expenditure, the most gifted goalscorer on the pitch was in red: Liverpool's Luis Suarez, scorer of the 73rd-minute equaliser and a threat throughout the second half once Terry had gone off injured.

The obvious gap between the possibilities for Suarez as an individual and the limitations of the presentLiverpool team have led some to speculate about a parting of the ways, but Chelsea are the one suitor manager Brendan Rodgers should not fear. The combination of Terry and Suarez at the same club is potentially so toxic after recent events that a complaint from the Society of Black Lawyers may be in the post even at the thought of it.

The pair came together to huge effect yesterday in an incident that probably changed the game. Ramires clattered into the back of Suarez, sending him tumbling headlong into Terry, who was removed on a stretcher, clearly in much pain with suspected knee ligament damage.

Until then, Liverpool had been innocuous, despite a reasonable share of possession. Chelsea shorn of Terry, however, are a different proposition and Liverpool sensed it. They came out with greater ambition after half-time, chased the game and, to the surprise of the locals, reeled it in. Rodgers abandoned his five at the back and Chelsea toiled. You don't get much for [pounds sterling]138m these days.

So who could have won this for Chelsea? The pick of it would be the Torres header from Oscar's cross that was well saved by Liverpool goalkeeper Brad Jones, the Torres shot from a powerful run by Hazard, again kept out by Jones, and Branislav Ivanovic's late header from a Mata corner.

Torres was an inch away from a significant near-post connection and Jones made a hash of a Mata free-kick that Mikel could not convert just before Liverpool scored, but Suarez's intervention seemed to knock the confidence from the home side. The expected siege of the Liverpool goal did not materialise.

James Bond gives more away under interrogation than di Matteo, but the Chelsea manager must privately be a little concerned at such wastefulness, not least as it took an error of boyish naivety to tee up Chelsea's only goal.

Terry was unmarked when he headed in Mata's corner. Unmarked. It just spells trouble. It just spells goal. And sure enough it did.

Terry arrived in a huge gap between two red shirts and his header left Jones no chance. On his return to the side, following his four-match domestic ban for racially abusing Anton Ferdinand, it was also typical of the man. Terry has a way of responding to a personal crisis that is a manager's dream.

Di Matteo would have restored him to the team without the slightest worry he could withstand the pressure. The discomfort will set in if the medical bulletin that followed his clash with Suarez brings bad news.

Chelsea can pull off the odd game without Terry -- the Champions League Final being a case in point -- but not a whole season.

Here was the proof. Would Liverpool have got a draw had Chelsea's original back four stayed together? There was scant indication of it.

The equaliser, however, showed vulnerability. Jamie Carragher was first to Suso's corner and Suarez got the better of Ramires to head home his 10th goal in 15 matches this season, three more than Torres, who has played three more games.

Take his goals away, say the number crunchers, and Liverpool would be in the bottom three. Put him in a blue shirt and Chelsea's season would not be so delicately poised. Then again, the same might be said of Didier Drogba watching from the stand. Not that the owner admits mistakes.

The Daily Telegraph

SUAREZ SHOWS THE WAY

CHELSEA Terry 20 1 LIVERPOOL Suarez 73 1 FOR Roman Abramovich, the painful irony is that, on the day he handed Liverpool [pounds sterling]50million for Fernando Torres, this was the sort of afternoon he was hoping to avoid. The one in which Chelsea dominate, yet fail to close the deal. The one in which chance after chance slips away. The one in which the old warrior, John Terry, is forced to do the job the forwards cannot. It is incredible to think that, take away Terry's unmarked header after 20 minutes and Chelsea could even have lost this one. Having dominated the first half, they allowed Liverpool back into the game and by the end were clinging on for a point. Four minutes into injury time, Luis Enrique -- Liverpool's most consistent performer and a real aggravation for Chelsea after halftime -- hit a low shot which produced a vital save from Petr Cech. There would have been no way back for Roberto Di Matteo's team had that gone in, their own nightmare Shakhtar Donetsk moment. It may have been a travesty considering Chelsea's supremacy, but the Ukrainian side probably felt the same about their injury-time defeat here last Wednesday. That Chelsea are not two points nearer to leaders Manchester United is not solely Torres's fault but a cheque for [pounds sterling]50m usually brings some guarantee of match-winning goals. Not to mention a cheque for [pounds sterling]23.5m (Juan Mata), [pounds sterling]32m (Eden Hazard), [pounds sterling]20m (Oscar) plus sundries of [pounds sterling]9m (Victor Moses) and [pounds sterling]3.5m and rising (Daniel Sturridge). It certainly lends fresh currency to the cliché about not being able to buy a goal. It will not be lost on Chelsea's owner that, for all his expenditure, the most gifted goalscorer on the pitch was in a red shirt: Liverpool's Luis Suarez, scorer of the 73rdminute equaliser and a threat throughout the second half once Terry had gone off injured. The obvious gap between the possibilities for Suarez as an individual and the limitations of the presentLiverpool team have led some to speculate about a parting of the ways, but Chelsea are the one suitor manager Brendan Rodgers should not fear. The combination of Terry and Suarez at the same club is potentially so toxic after recent events that a complaint from the Society of Black Lawyers may be in the post even at the thought of it.

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So who could have won this for Chelsea? Oscar (six minutes), Branislav Ivanovic (19), Torres and Hazard (27), Mata (45), Mata again (45+4), Mata third time unlucky (53), Torres (57), Torres (64), Mata and John Mikel Obi (67), Ivanovic (87) and Hazard (90). The pick of it would be the Torres header from Oscar's cross that was well saved by Liverpool goalkeeper Brad Jones, the Torres shot from a powerful run by Hazard, again kept out by Jones, and Ivanovic's late header from a Mata corner. Torres was an inch away from a significant near-post connection and Jones made a hash of a Mata free-kick that Mikel could not convert just before Liverpool scored, but Suarez's intervention seemed to knock the confidence from the home side. The expected siege of the Liverpool goal did not materialise. James Bond gives more away under interrogation than Di Matteo but the Chelsea manager must privately be a little concerned at such wastefulness, not least as it took an error of boyish naivety to tee up Chelsea's only goal.

Terry was unmarked when he headed in Mata's corner. Unmarked. That's like bowling short down the leg side to Alastair Cook or giving Cristiano Ronaldo a free-kick on the edge of the area. It just spells trouble. It just spells goal. And sure enough it did.

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Suarez proves a man apart as Chelsea lose ground at the top
Luis Suarez celebrated his equaliser alone in front of the travelling Liverpool support yesterday, his team-mates electing to head back into their own half and prepare for the onslaught of the last 20 minutes of the match. As it turned out, the image of a man apart suits Liverpool's leading striker rather well.
He has scored in his last four games for Liverpool, 11 in all this season, although his club have won just one of those nine matches in which he has scored. Without him yesterday, they would have lacked the sharp edge to open up their opponents and been unable to turn a fairly forgettable first-half performance into a draw. Every time he received the ball a world of possibilities opened up.
With a nudge in the back of Ramires to create the space to score, Suarez bought himself enough room to head in a corner from Suso that was flicked on at the near post by Jamie Carragher on 72 minutes. The Uruguayan was not the only decent performer in a Liverpool second half - Steven Gerrard, Raheem Sterling and Glen Johnson all played well - but it always felt like if a goal was to come, it would come from Suarez.
When Brendan Rodgers says that he would not change Suarez for any other player you can see his point. In fact, this current Chelsea team with Suarez rather than Fernando Torres as their leading striker would be a whole different package. As it is, the European champions have now slipped to third in the Premier League behind the usual suspects from Manchester after the brightest of starts to the season.
Torres worked hard yesterday, especially when it came to chasing down Liverpool's midfielders, but there is not the same menace about him as there is about Suarez when he gets the ball. Suarez might even have won it for Liverpool with four minutes of the game left had Petr Cech not succeeded in closing him down and getting a toe to the ball which cannoned back off the Liverpool man.
On 35 minutes, it was Suarez who fell on top of John Terry's right leg, causing the Chelsea captain's knee to twist unnaturally. Having scored the first goal of the game, Terry, on his return from his four-match suspension for the racial abuse of Anton Ferdinand, went down in the kind of distress that you rarely see from the breed of old-school centre-backs to which he belongs.
Eventually they carted the Chelsea captain off on a stretcher and he will have a scan on that knee today to assess the extent of the damage. At the point that he left the game it was hard to imagine anything other than a Chelsea victory, but gradually Liverpool fought their way back into the game and after Suarez scored the equaliser they might even have won it. With a five-man defence, with Carragher at the centre of it, Rodgers' side struggled in the first half, not least from the corner that Terry scored from. On that occasion, Daniel Agger and Johnson - marking Terry and Branislav Ivanovic - got themselves tangled up and allowed the Chelsea captain to steer his header in off Brad Jones's left-hand post. In midfield, Joe Allen found himself caught in possession too often. Alongside him, Nuri Sahin was not a profound influence on the game, certainly not in comparison with the likes of Juan Mata and, to a lesser extent, Oscar in the first half. Mata's delicate touch on the ball was evident every time it was at his feet, which was not quite enough from Chelsea's point of view.
In time added on at the end of the first half, Mata slipped the ball through Andre Wisdom's legs and then struck his shot over. Before then Torres and Eden Hazard had missed chances when another goal from Chelsea would have put the game out of sight. Liverpool hung on, and with Suarez there was always hope.
Rodgers changed his team to a more orthodox 4-4-2 in the second half, with Suso on in place of Sahin after the hour and Sterling pushed up alongside Suarez. The goal came when Carragher did well at the near post to flick the ball back across goal and Ramires allowed himself to be eased out of position by Suarez.
The draw gives Rodgers 12 points from his first 11 games. He will not want reminding that Roy Hodgson, his much-maligned predecessor who came before Kenny Dalglish, had 15 points at this stage of the 2010-2011 season with his 11th game in charge yielding three points at home to Chelsea. Liverpool are currently in 13th place, level on points with Stoke City but it is not as bad as it could have been. That is down, in no small measure, to Suarez, whose instincts got Liverpool out of a fix again.
At the end of the game, once the stadium had cleared, Didier Drogba came down from his executive suite and walked down the tunnel wearing the kind of thick black spectacles that he never required to locate the opposition's goal in his eight years at the club.
Chelsea still miss his presence - which team would not? - and while Torres's performances are marginally improved he is still not the answer. The striker was not happy to be substituted for Daniel Sturridge yesterday, although it was the right decision. What Chelsea really needed from their No 9, what Drogba provided on so many occasions was the killer blow, the second goal, but it never came.
After the stadium had cleared, Terry emerged from the tunnel on crutches and proceeded to cross the pitch slowly on his way to the exit. In the past his injury would have been a concern for the England manager but those days are over. Nowadays there is just Chelsea for him, and he will know better than most that they had enough chances to win this game before Suarez intervened.



CHELSEA
LIVERPOOL
Substitutions: Chelsea Cahill 6 (Terry, 40), Moses (Oscar, 77), Sturridge (Torres, 82). Liverpool Suso 5 (Sahin, 60). Bookings: Chelsea Mikel. Liverpool Allen, Johnson, Gerrard. Man of the match Johnson Match rating 7/10. Possession: Chelsea 43%. Liverpool 57%. Attempts on target: Chelsea 3. Liverpool 3. Referee H Webb (S Yorkshire). Attendance 41,627.

Terry and Suarez grab headlines
It happens seemingly every year, ever since Luis Felipe Scolari. The clocks go back and Chelsea lose their way, the bright football of the first few months replaced by caution and nervousness.
This time, we were promised by current Blues boss Roberto Di Matteo, it would not happen. The lessons had been learned.
But two points out of nine after Liverpool's second-half resurgence earned a deserved reward – as Luis Suarez showed Fernando Torres what a clinical striker truly is – it was another spell of what Carlo Ancelotti called a “bad moment”. For Ancelotti, of course, it went on for months. Similar winter wobbles saw Scolari and Andre Villas-Boas sent packing long before light evenings returned.
While Di Matteo does not face the same fate yet, the Italian may be wondering if the gods are conspiring against him, too.
The gods who ordain that John Terry, in his first game back after his ban for what he said to Anton Ferdinand, should be carried off in agony, soon after nodding the Blues in front. An injury that could have huge repercussions.
And the same gods who are playing a sick joke on Torres, turning him from an object of fear throughout the land to one of pity.
Statistics can be used to demonstrate anything you like, but sometimes they graphically represent the harsh reality.
In 84 appearances since he joined Chelsea for £50million, Torres has scored 18 goals, and none in five against his old club. Suarez, who effectively replaced him for less than half the money, has now got 32 in 68 games.
To be fair to Torres, he was up for it last night, picking up the ball and driving at the heart of a three-man defence including two Reds extremes, Jamie Carragher and rookie Andre Wisdom. Trying hard, though, is not enough.
Twice, once after a terrific run by Eden Hazard, and then when Oscar's free-kick saw him flick goalwards, he was denied by the excellent Brad Jones.
With dominant Chelsea looking to extend their 20th-minute lead – given them when Daniel Agger and Glen Johnson made a complete Horlicks of the marking from Juan Mata's corner – another chance arrived, one that the Liverpool incarnation of the Spaniard would have gobbled up.
Mata's brilliant volley sent Ryan Bertrand away down the left, the low ball in begged for a finish, but Torres could not nudge home.
Suarez, in contrast, has returned this season a different player.
Last term, he was almost as profligate. This time round, rising to the challenge of being Brendan Rodgers' only real striker, his 10th goal this season really mattered. The Uruguayan had fed off mere scraps for the first 70 minutes, as Chelsea took control.
But once Terry made way, screaming out as Ramires' push on Suarez sent the blameless Liverpool man plunging into his knee, he sensed his chance would come.
It did with 17 minutes to go, as the Reds reverted to a back four and sub Suso's corner was flicked on by Carragher, with Suarez's clever nudge on Ramires creating the space for him to nod home.
Suddenly, Chelsea were hanging on. Suso scuffed wide and keeper Petr Cech denied Jose Enrique down to his right in added time.
Kudos for Rodgers, questions for Di Matteo – and ones he must answer swiftly, before the shadow of the past stalks his team.
What he would give for the old Torres, or the current Suarez.
With either, surely, it would have been different. Spectres are swirling round the Bridge.
CHELSEA: Cech 7, Azpilicueta 6, Ivanovic 6, Terry 7 (Cahill 40, 6), Bertrand 7; Ramires 6, Mikel 7, Oscar 7 (Moses 77), Mata 8, Hazard 7, Torres 6 (Sturridge 82) LIVERPOOL: Jones 8, Wisdom 5, Carragher 6, Agger 7, Johnson 6, Allen 6, Sahin 5 (Suso 60, 6), Enrique 7, Gerrard 6, Sterling 6, Suarez 7 REF: Howard Webb ATT: 41,627

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ONCE again Liverpool FC left the big-spenders feeling short-changed in West London. It was only a point but it felt like more.

For three-quarters of the afternoon Brendan Rodgers could only sit and watch as his side were comprehensively outplayed. Second best in all departments, the Reds appeared to be heading for a chastening defeat following John Terry's first-half header. However, Chelsea failed to deliver the killer blow and the visitors dug deep to summon a gutsy fightback to extend their unbeaten league run to six games. The transformation after Luis Suarez headed home the equaliser was remarkable as Liverpool finished with a flourish. They could have won it late on but a fourth successive victory at Stamford Bridge narrowly eluded them.

Once again Suarez walked away with the plaudits as the Uruguayan claimed his 11th goal of the season and his eighth strike in his past 10 league outings.

There was only one winner in the battle between Kop idols past and present. Suarez enjoyed a smooch with the camera after continuing his hot streak, while Fernando Torres was hauled off late on with that familiar scowl etched across his face. Five times Torres has faced Liverpool since he turned his back on the club in January 2011 and on each occasion the £50million man has reinforced the fact that he's a pale imitation of his former self.

In Suarez, Liverpool have someone who cost less than half of Torres but is twice the player. The striker is in the form of his life and his value to the Reds is huge – but this was no one-man show. Just as deserving of praise was the back three of Jamie Carragher, Andre Wisdom and Daniel Agger who put their bodies on the line to repel Chelsea's advances. It was Carragher's first league start of the season but the veteran defender, facing the Londoners for the 44th time in his career, slotted in seamlessly to help keep Torres under wraps and played a starring role in helping Suarez restore parity. Jose Enrique epitomised Liverpool's fighting spirit down the left flank. The Spaniard started badly but blossomed as the afternoon went on and so nearly capped his tireless display with a dramatic winner.

Further forward, Raheem Sterling demonstrated that he has the temperament as well as the talent to succeed at the highest level. He refused to be bullied and a first England cap now awaits the talented teenager against Sweden on Wednesday night.

Delight at the Reds' comeback should be tempered today by a glance at the Premier League table which shows Liverpool remain in the bottom half with 12 points from 11 matches. Their day in the capital showcased the character Rodgers has installed in his squad but it also highlighted the urgent need to strengthen in January. The size of the task facing the Northern Irishman to restore the Reds back to the elite group is underlined by the fact that fresh from winning the FA Cup and Champions League, Chelsea spent £80million this summer.

The front four they fielded yesterday of Torres, Juan Mata, Oscar and Eden Hazard cost an eye-watering £130million.

You can have a style and a philosophy but ultimately success comes down to the quality of players and Liverpool are in need of a sizeable injection. A show of ambition is required to convince the likes of Suarez that the Reds are serious about reclaiming their top four status.

For a long time it looked like Chelsea's riches would pay dividends as Rodgers' men were on the back foot. The boss opted to go with 3-5-2 in a bid to combat that attacking threat with Carragher replacing Martin Skrtel, who missed out due to illness, and Glen Johnson returning from injury in place of Suso.

There was a major let-off early on as Joe Allen left Liverpool exposed after losing possession. Hazard's pass left Oscar with just Brad Jones to beat but the Brazilian lifted his shot over the bar. The manner in which the Reds fell behind in the 20th minute was galling. Terry was granted the freedom of the penalty box to meet Mata's corner and power a header past Jones. The visitors were getting over-run in midfield and too often possession was thrown away cheaply.

They were lucky not to fall further behind just before the half hour mark. Allen allowed Hazard to burst away from him and he laid the ball into Torres' path. The Spaniard's low strike was parried away by Jones and Hazard failed to convert the rebound. Ten minutes before half-time Suarez inadvertently ended Terry's afternoon. A tackle from Ramires sent Suarez flying into the centre-back who went down in a heap. After lengthy treatment, he was stretchered off with Gary Cahill replacing him. Chelsea should have made it 2-0 in stoppage time when Oscar nodded into the path of Mata but he blazed wastefully over.

In the second half Liverpool continued to cling on as Mata fired wide before Torres' header was kept out by Jones, who once again impressed in the absence of Pepe Reina. Rodgers took action on the hour as the ineffective Nuri Sahin made way for Suso. The youngster was played in the central role where he had caught the eye after coming off the bench against Anzhi in midweek.

Sterling went out to the right in a 4-2-3-1 and finally Liverpool began to secure a foothold in the contest. Petr Cech hadn't had a save to make but he was forced to pick the ball out of his net when the equaliser arrived out of nowhere in the 73rd minute. Liverpool have turned wasting corners into an art form of late – hitting the first defender with remarkable regularity. But they made this one count in glorious fashion. Suso delivered from the right, Carragher provided the flick and Suarez nodded in at the back post. It was Carragher's first league assist for three and a half years.



The travelling Kop erupted and the sight of Torres being dragged off only increased their sense of satisfaction. Rodgers' decision to rest so many of his star names for the midweek trip to Russia was vindicated as while Chelsea flagged, Liverpool grew in strength in the later stages.

With six minutes to go Steven Gerrard sent Sterling scampering down the right. The winger picked out Suso but he scuffed his shot wide.

Suarez was inspired after his goal, forcing Cech to save with an opportunist strike from the halfway line before the keeper raced out to prevent him from converting Enrique's through ball. Deep into stoppage time the Reds had a glorious chance to clinch maximum points. Sterling and Suarez combined to tee up Enrique, whose low drive was clawed behind by Cech as Chelsea survived. It was a rarity for Liverpool this season. A day when the result was better than the performance.

IF, as Roberto di Matteo contends, Liverpool are Chelsea's bogey team, then surely Luis Suarez is the bogeyman of the entire Premier League.

How else to describe the extraordinary Uruguayan as he continues to drag the Anfield outfit kicking and screaming into the Brendan Rodgers era?

The Northern Irishman was effusive in his praise of Suarez ahead of yesterday's trip to Stamford Bridge, warning of the nightmares the striker can inflict on opposing defenders. Chelsea, both mentally and physically, were on the receiving end of the Liverpool forward, whose equaliser earned the visitors a point that, for much of the preceding 72 minutes, seemed as likely as sympathy from the travelling support for the stricken John Terry, earlier stretchered off after an accidental collision with Suarez. That's 11 for the season for the Uruguayan, who has scored eight of their 14 Premier League goals and contributed two assists.

Suarez, over-burdened as he is, cannot do it all by himself, however. And both his team-mates and manager deserve their share of the credit for such a remarkable transformation in fortunes yesterday. So out of sorts were Liverpool for the opening hour that only Chelsea's wasteful finishing had kept them in a game in which they were deservedly behind to Terry's avoidable 20th-minute opener.

Rodgers, though, saw the error of his ways. And having switched from a restrictive and rarely convincing three-man defence to a more conventional flat back four, the Liverpool manager was rewarded with a much-improved performance that could ultimately have snatched all three points.

That possibly would have been a bit too much. The facts are Liverpool have won only two of their first 11 league games and languish in 13th place, eight points adrift of the Champions League qualification places.

But the manner of this point – continuing Liverpool's excellent recent record at Stamford Bridge – and the character of the comeback will provide a significant shot of self-belief in the raft of new players and youngsters who have on occasion started to waver under the weight of their increased responsibilities in recent weeks. While Suarez prospered, so Fernando Torres, the former darling of the Kop, once again suffered, now yet to beat Liverpool in five attempts since departing almost two years ago. Yet for an hour, it appeared the Spaniard would end that drought as Liverpool's midfield – Joe Allen overpowered, Nuri Sahin anonymous, Steven Gerrard on the periphery – were constantly outmanoeuvred by di Matteo's side. But with Jamie Carragher, making his first Premier League start of the season in place of the ill Martin Skrtel, helping gradually negate Torres, Liverpool belatedly worked their way into the game, the much-maligned Jose Enrique posting his most impressive performance for some time while the impressive Glen Johnson revelled against his former club.

Chelsea, buoyed by their dramatic Champions League win over Shakhtar Donetsk in midweek, fired an early warning in the sixth minute when Oscar, having initially stolen the ball from Allen, steered a decent opportunity wastefully over from Eden Hazard's neat pass. Torres then coaxed a foul from Carragher only for Branislav Ivanovic to smash the free-kick harmlessly over.

And the Spaniard won the corner from which Chelsea went ahead on 20 minutes. From Juan Mata's right-wing delivery, Daniel Agger allowed himself to be boxed off by the tussle between Johnson and Ivanovic with the unmarked Terry capitalising by powering in a bullet header beyond the helpless Brad Jones, continuing in goal with Pepe Reina still not fully fit.

However, Terry's comeback after a four-game domestic ban following his race row with Anton Ferdinand was curtailed 10 minutes before the interval when Suarez, given a nudge in the back by Ramires, accidentally clattered into the centre-back on the edge of the home area.

Television replays made for gruesome viewing, and after five minutes of treatment, the Chelsea skipper departed on a stretcher with suspected knee ligament damage. Chelsea kept creating chances. Before the break, a retreating Liverpool defence gave an advancing Hazard space to play in Torres for shot parried by Jones, Hazard then acrobatically sending the rebound wide.

In first-half injury time, Mata spurned a great chance when, accepting Oscar's header on, he jinked beyond Carragher and Wisdom but skied horribly over with just Jones to beat. The goalkeeper made a decent stop after the interval to repel a Torres header from Oscar's free-kick, but Jones was fortunate to see his save from a Mata set-piece deflect wide off Jon Obi Mikel.

Liverpool's only serious effort had seen Sahin send a 20-yard shot harmlessly wide on the half-hour. But, buoyed by the switch in tactics following the introduction of Suso, Rodgers' men were far more threatening in the final quarter and equalised

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17 minutes from time after themselves profiting from poor defending at a corner. Suso's right-wing delivery was flicked on by Carragher and Suarez, drifting away from a dozing Ramires at the far post, headed in from a matter of yards. Remarkably, it was Carragher's first Premier League assist since April 2009. Liverpool's growing confidence during the closing stages was encapsulated by Suarez forcing Petr Cech to work to keep out an audacious lob from 25 yards before being only denied by the legs of the onrushing Chelsea goalkeeper as he raced on to Enrique's pass.

And the Spaniard almost won the game for Liverpool in the fourth minute of injury time only for Cech to make a fine save at his near post.

The headlines, though, belonged once again to the incredible Suarez.

MAN OF THE MATCH. Glen Johnson. Impressive in defence and a willing outlet in attack



Suarez deals blow to Chelsea's title challenge

Luis Suarez dealt a huge double blow to Chelsea's Barclays Premier League title hopes today after inadvertently ending John Terry's comeback and snatching a deserved draw for Liverpool at Stamford Bridge.

Terry looked set to enjoy a dream return to action after his domestic four-match racism ban when he powered the European champions ahead from a corner at Stamford Bridge.

But the Blues captain then collided accidentally with the man at the centre of football's other race scandal, forcing him off on a stretcher, with Suarez going on to equalise for Liverpool and almost steal victory.

The draw prevented Chelsea from climbing back into second place as they recorded their third league game without a win to lie three points behind Manchester United.

The home support may have turned up expecting another Stamford Bridge goal-fest, having witnessed 30 in the previous five games here.

But having shipped 14 goals in their last seven matches, Chelsea appeared to adopt a more conservative approach against a Liverpool side who recalled virtually all their available big guns but persevered with their experiment of playing three at the back.

They certainly had plenty of the ball early on, but the Blues' counter-attacking approach almost paid off in the sixth minute when Joe Allen lost possession to Oscar, who was threaded in by Eden Hazard only to lift the ball over the crossbar. Liverpool, who had won on their previous three visits to Stamford Bridge, continued to probe but their defence went AWOL from Chelsea's first corner in the 20th minute.

Terry was allowed to dart untracked to the near post and duly powered home Juan Mata's delivery.

Another lightning Chelsea break from the lively Hazard saw Fernando Torres' shot parried by Brad Jones straight to the Belgian, who could not control his volley. Nuri Sahin dragged wide at the other end before a nightmare moment for Terry and Chelsea 10 minutes before half-time.

Terry gifted the ball to Steven Gerrard and got back to make a tackle on Suarez, who fell on his right leg, leaving him in agony.

After several minutes of treatment on his knee, Terry was forced to concede his comeback was over and was carried off on a stretcher with his head in his hands, manager Roberto Di Matteo offering a consoling word before he disappeared down the tunnel.

Gary Cahill replaced Terry with the atmosphere inevitably flattening until the fourth minute of stoppage-time when Mata's superb run was marred by a rushed finish that was so out of character.

Liverpool had clearly been told to up the aggression at the break but they repeatedly took it too far.

Allen was rightly booked for bundling over Torres and the fit-again Glen Johnson followed for obstructing Oscar, whose free-kick saw Jones produce a brilliant reflex save from Torres' header.

In the chaos that followed, Gerrard hurt his left knee trying to prevent Torres reaching the rebound and Mikel produced an airshot from barely eight yards. Liverpool hauled off Sahin for Suso as they abandoned their back three and briefly had Chelsea under pressure before Torres went close to prodding in Ryan Bertrand's cross.

Mikel - who must surely end his five-year goal drought so attacking has he become - nearly got on the end of a Mata free-kick after Gerrard was cautioned for tripping Oscar.

But Liverpool's substitution paid off 17 minutes from time when Suso's corner was flicked on by Jamie Carragher and Suarez nodded home from point-blank range.

Chelsea came straight back at them but the visitors were defending manfully and Di Matteo wasted little time throwing on Wednesday's matchwinner, Victor Moses, for Oscar.

Liverpool looked just as capable of snatching victory and Mikel was booked for the latest in a series of clumsy tackles before Torres was replaced by Daniel Sturridge.

Suso shanked wide when well-placed, Suarez tried his luck from the halfway line and Ivanovic powered over a header.

Suarez would have won it for Liverpool after racing clear onto Enrique's ball but for a vital challenge from Cech.

And after Hazard blasted narrowly wide, Cech came to Chelsea's rescue again in stoppage-time by keeping out Enrique's powerful near-post shot.

Date: 11 November 2012 Opposition: Chelsea Competition: League	Post	Times	Telegraph	Echo		11 November 2012
		Guardian	Mail	Evening Standard		
	Independent	Mirror	BBC			

BBC

90:00+4:15Full time The game is over, as the referee blows his whistle.
90:00+3:15 Sanchez Jose Enrique takes a shot. Save by Petr Cech. Outswinging corner taken by Jesus Fernandez Saez, clearance by Victor Moses.
90:00+1:37 Centre by Cesar Azpilicueta.
90:00+0:12 Luis Suarez is ruled offside. Free kick taken by Branislav Ivanovic.
89:33 Effort from outside the box by Eden Hazard goes wide right of the target.
89:07 Inswinging corner taken from the left by-line by Eden Hazard, clearance made by Steven Gerrard.
86:26 Corner taken left-footed by Juan Mata, Header from deep inside the penalty area by Branislav Ivanovic goes harmlessly over the crossbar.
85:47 Luis Suarez takes a shot. Petr Cech makes a comfortable save.
85:13 A cross is delivered by Ryan Bertrand, Daniel Agger manages to make a clearance.
84:30 The offside flag is raised against Luis Suarez. Branislav Ivanovic takes the indirect free kick.
83:48 Raheem Sterling delivers the ball, Jesus Fernandez Saez has an effort at goal from deep inside the area missing to the right of the target.
83:12 Cesar Azpilicueta produces a cross.
81:03 Direct free kick taken by Glen Johnson.
81:03Substitution SubstitutionDaniel Sturridge on for Fernando Torres.
81:03 Free kick awarded for a foul by Cesar Azpilicueta on Sanchez Jose Enrique.
80:38 A cross is delivered by Ryan Bertrand, comfortable save by Brad Jones.
79:13 The referee blows for offside against Sanchez Jose Enrique. Petr Cech takes the free kick.
78:09 Joe Allen restarts play with the free kick.
78:09Booking for Mikel.
78:03 Free kick awarded for a foul by Mikel on Jesus Fernandez Saez.
75:37Substitution SubstitutionVictor Moses comes on in place of Emboaba Oscar.
75:37 The ball is swung over by Cesar Azpilicueta.
72:02 The assist for the goal came from Jamie Carragher.
72:02Goal scored Goal - Luis Suarez - Chelsea 1 - 1 LiverpoolLuis Suarez scores a headed goal from close in. Chelsea 1-1 Liverpool.
71:44 Andre Wisdom sends in a cross, clearance by Gary Cahill. Corner taken by Jesus Fernandez Saez from the right by-line,
69:14 Nascimento Ramires takes a long range shot clearing the bar.
67:48 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Raheem Sterling by Mikel. The free kick is swung in right-footed by Steven Gerrard, Fernando Torres makes a clearance. Raheem Sterling takes a shot. Gary Cahill gets a block in.
66:35 The free kick is delivered left-footed by Juan Mata from right channel, save made by Brad Jones.
66:35Booking Steven Gerrard goes into the book for unsporting behaviour.
66:19 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Emboaba Oscar by Steven Gerrard.
64:50 Corner taken by Jesus Fernandez Saez played to the near post, Emboaba Oscar makes a clearance. Joe Allen takes a shot. Blocked by Eden Hazard.
63:15 Ryan Bertrand produces a cross.
62:48 Branislav Ivanovic fouled by Steven Gerrard, the ref awards a free kick. Branislav Ivanovic restarts play with the free kick.
61:14 Outswinging corner taken by Jesus Fernandez Saez from the left by-line, Daniel Agger takes a shot. Clearance by Branislav Ivanovic.
59:01Substitution SubstitutionJesus Fernandez Saez replaces Nuri Sahin.
55:42 The ball is crossed by Emboaba Oscar, Fernando Torres takes a shot. Save by Brad Jones.
55:42Booking The referee books Glen Johnson for unsporting behaviour.
55:22 Emboaba Oscar fouled by Glen Johnson, the ref awards a free kick.
52:50 Juan Mata has an effort at goal from outside the box which goes wide left of the goal.
51:54 Daniel Agger gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Fernando Torres. Free kick taken by Cesar Azpilicueta.
51:22 Free kick awarded for a foul by Luis Suarez on Branislav Ivanovic. Petr Cech takes the free kick.
50:54 Juan Mata concedes a free kick for a foul on Sanchez Jose Enrique. Daniel Agger takes the free kick.
49:47 Juan Mata takes the inswinging corner, Steven Gerrard makes a clearance.
49:10 Free kick crossed left-footed by Juan Mata from left channel, Daniel Agger makes a clearance.
49:10Booking The referee cautions Joe Allen for unsporting behaviour.
49:05 Joe Allen gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Fernando Torres.
48:27 Cesar Azpilicueta crosses the ball, Sanchez Jose Enrique manages to make a clearance.
47:49 Sanchez Jose Enrique is flagged offside by the assistant referee. Free kick taken by Petr Cech.
45:58 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Raheem Sterling by Mikel. Jamie Carragher takes the direct free kick.
45:20 Unfair challenge on Eden Hazard by Steven Gerrard results in a free kick. Free kick taken by Ryan Bertrand.
45:01 The game restarts for the second half.
45:00+5:05Half time The first half comes to an end.
45:00+4:34 Unfair challenge on Branislav Ivanovic by Luis Suarez results in a free kick. Petr Cech restarts play with the free kick.
45:00+4:23 Glen Johnson sends in a cross, Gary Cahill manages to make a clearance.
45:00+3:46 Juan Mata takes a shot from just inside the penalty box which clears the bar.
45:00+1:40 Luis Suarez fouled by Gary Cahill, the ref awards a free kick. Joe Allen takes the free kick.
45:00+0:11 The ball is sent over by Steven Gerrard, comfortable save by Petr Cech.
44:33 Sanchez Jose Enrique sends in a cross, comfortable save by Petr Cech.
42:33 Centre by Eden Hazard.

41:50 Unfair challenge on Joe Allen by Emboaba Oscar results in a free kick. Direct free kick taken by Joe Allen.
39:58 The ball is swung over by Raheem Sterling, Branislav Ivanovic manages to make a clearance. Nuri Sahin takes the outswinging corner, clearance by Emboaba Oscar.
39:45 Sanchez Jose Enrique produces a cross.
38:51Substitution SubstitutionGary Cahill on for John Terry.
33:32 Sanchez Jose Enrique is flagged offside by the assistant referee. Indirect free kick taken by Petr Cech.
32:46 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Glen Johnson by Nascimento Ramires. Direct free kick taken by Steven Gerrard.
31:10 The ball is swung over by Sanchez Jose Enrique, clearance by John Terry.
30:50 Free kick awarded for a foul by Fernando Torres on Raheem Sterling. Glen Johnson takes the direct free kick.
30:00 Nuri Sahin has an effort at goal from outside the box which goes wide right of the target.
27:20 Free kick awarded for a foul by Andre Wisdom on Eden Hazard. Eden Hazard delivers the ball, Header from deep inside the penalty area by Fernando Torres goes harmlessly over the crossbar.
26:40 Fernando Torres takes a shot. Brad Jones makes a save. Effort from the edge of the area by Eden Hazard goes wide of the right-hand upright.
25:51 Juan Mata gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Sanchez Jose Enrique. Free kick taken by Daniel Agger.
24:43 Long range effort by Daniel Agger goes harmlessly over the crossbar.
23:34 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Nuri Sahin by Eden Hazard. Steven Gerrard restarts play with the free kick.
23:21 Juan Mata delivers the ball, Brad Jones makes a comfortable save.
20:58 Unfair challenge on Emboaba Oscar by Joe Allen results in a free kick. The free kick is delivered left-footed by Juan Mata from left channel, save made by Brad Jones.
19:23 The assist for the goal came from Juan Mata.
19:23Goal scored Goal - John Terry - Chelsea 1 - 0 LiverpoolJohn Terry grabs a headed goal from deep inside the penalty box. Chelsea 1-0 Liverpool.
19:02 Juan Mata takes the inswinging corner,
17:43 Jamie Carragher concedes a free kick for a foul on Fernando Torres. Free kick taken by Juan Mata. Branislav Ivanovic takes a shot from 35 yards and went wide of the right-hand post.
15:48 Cesar Azpilicueta delivers the ball, clearance made by Daniel Agger.
15:08 The referee blows for offside. Free kick taken by Branislav Ivanovic.
13:43 The referee blows for offside. Indirect free kick taken by Ryan Bertrand.
13:43 The official flags Steven Gerrard offside. Free kick taken by John Terry.
12:39 Centre by Cesar Azpilicueta, clearance made by Sanchez Jose Enrique.
11:48 Corner taken by Steven Gerrard from the left by-line, Petr Cech makes a comfortable save.
11:16 A cross is delivered by Glen Johnson, blocked by Ryan Bertrand. Outswinging corner taken right-footed by Steven Gerrard, Branislav Ivanovic manages to make a clearance.
6:37 The ball is swung over by Juan Mata.
5:48 Effort from deep inside the area by Emboaba Oscar clears the bar.
5:04 Luis Suarez challenges Eden Hazard unfairly and gives away a free kick. Petr Cech takes the direct free kick.
4:50 A cross is delivered by Sanchez Jose Enrique, save by Petr Cech.
4:05 Fernando Torres gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Nuri Sahin. Daniel Agger restarts play with the free kick.
1:57 The assistant referee flags for offside against Fernando Torres. Nuri Sahin takes the indirect free kick.
1:08 Branislav Ivanovic fouled by Raheem Sterling, the ref awards a free kick. Petr Cech takes the direct free kick.
0:00 The match gets underway.