Date: 30 January 2013
Opposition: Arsenal
Competition: League

BBC	Times	Telegraph	Echo
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30 January 2013

THE TIMES

Walcott on cue to spare blushes of thin Arsenal rearguard

Arsenal 2 Liverpool 2

Arsenal's biggest problem in recent years has been the fact that their quality players have lacked the character to deliver when it really matters, but now their situation seems to be exactly the reverse. Arsene Wenger's side showed tremendous character to come from two down as Olivier Giroud and Theo Walcott both scored in the space of three second-half minutes to ensure they stay ahead Liverpool in the battle of the Barclays Premier League's alsorans, although that achievement did not mask their obvious deficiencies. If Wenger really cannot find any players better than the back five that embarrassed themselves during a dismal first half then he should begin by sacking his scouts. A wonderfully entertaining game demonstrated both why the Premier League has such a huge global appeal, and the reasons that these teams are unlikely to win it any time soon. As naive in defence as they were adventurous in attack, they may also struggle to qualify for the Champions League. Arsenal finished the game as Liverpool had started, pushing forward for goals with gay abandon against opponents who appeared dead on their feet, but the handful of boos that mixed with applause following the final whistle suggested that not everyone had forgotten the horrors that had gone before. Most Arsenal fans would have accepted the notion of Luiz Suarez as a potential match-winner, and he duly opened the scoring, but not Jordan Henderson, who doubled the visiting team's lead in the second half. Liverpool's opening goal was the result of such a comedy of errors, a catalogue of calamities, that it deserves to be studied in detail, as Arsenal's players will be made to do when they report for training this morning. Their defending was so abject that such an accomplished centre back as Steve Bould, the assistant coach, was no doubt ashamed to be associated with it.

The fifth-minute goal actually began with an error, a rare poor pass from Suarez, but that paled compared with what was to follow. Bacary Sagna's slip turned the Uruguayan's attempted flick into an astute angled ball for Glen Johnson, whose cross was mis-kicked by Thomas Vermaelen to present Liverpool with a sight of goal. Daniel Sturridge's shot was saved by Wojciech Szczesny, but Aaron Ramsey's poor clearancepresented the visiting side with a second chance, with Suarez seizing on Henderson's ball to score via a deflection from Per Mertesacker.

It got even worse seven minutes later. For some reason best known to himself, Szczesny played a goalkick short to Mertesacker, who promptly gave it back to him, and then the fun and games began. The Poland goalkeeper lingered too long to give the onrushing Sturridge more than a fair chance of winning the ball from him, a fate he only avoided courtesy of an inelegant turn that was more Crufts that Cruyff. Arsenal continued in a similar slapstick manner, with the only surprise that they managed to retreat to the dressing room just one goal down. The gaffes alone could fill a bloopers DVD. Mertesacker gave the ball away under no pressure to Henderson, with Suarez's resultant shot being bundled behind goal; Daniel Agger saw his header cleared off the line by Lukas Podolski after the Denmark defender was left unmarked at a corner; and Henderson twice shot over the bar after seemingly being given the freedom of Islington to run from midfield.

It was difficult to highlight who was most responsible for Arsenal's hapless display -- their Awol full-backs or error-strewn central defenders -- but Liverpool failed to take advantage and also looked vulnerable at the other end of the pitch.

Walcott's pace caused Liverpool problems on the counter-attack and the England winger was largely responsible for Arsenal's rare forays forward, being denied by a smart save low to his left from Pepe Reina.

Arsenal were booed off at half-time, and returned looking determined to make amends making a promising start before being undone by their familiar defensive weakness. Like their first, Liverpool's second goal on the hour also sprang from nothing, a damning indictment of their opponents' fragility. Henderson received the ball from Sturridge in an unpromising position, but was able to turn the statuesque figures of Mertesacker and Andre Santos before riding a challenge from Ramsey and beating Szcznesy. Arsenal, however, stormed back by using adventurous attacking football to disguise their defensive shortcomings.

Their first goal in the 65th minute came from a set-piece, with Giroud heading in Jack Wilshere's free kick, but their second three minutes later was built on the neat one-touch passing which used to be their hallmark. Sagna shrugged off the inertia that was overcome him this season to link with Santi Cazorla and Giroud, whose intelligent lay-off was finished by Walcott for his goal No 18 of the season. Without their former contract rebel, Arsenal really would have problems.

After a brief lull Arsenal pushed hard for a winner in the last ten minutes, with Reina making a smart save from Cazorla and Giroud missing two good chances, but a defeat would have been harsh on Liverpool. They have still to beat a top side under Brendan Rodgers, and despite the entertainment they provided neither of these teams quite match that description.

Arsenal (4-2-3-1): W Szczesny -- B Sagna, P Mertesacker, T Vermaelen, K Gibbs (sub: A Santos, 37min) -- A Ramsey, J Wilshere -- T Walcott, S Cazorla, L Podolski -- O Giroud. Substitutes not used: V Mannone, A Diaby, L Koscielny, T Rosicky, A Oxlade-Chamberlain, C Jenkinson. Booked: Cazorla, Giroud, Mertesacker.

Liverpool (4-2-3-1): J M Reina -- A Wisdom, J Carragher, D Agger, G Johnson -- Lucas Leiva, S Gerrard -- S Downing, J Henderson, L Suarez -- D Sturridge (sub: J Enrique, 71). Substitutes not used: B Jones, J Allen, F Borini, R Sterling, J Shelvey, M Skrtel. Booked: Gerrard.

Referee: K Friend.

theguardian

Walcott fires Arsenal recovery after comedy of errors

Arsenal do not start playing until they are behind. Theirs has been a wacky, impossible-to-fathom brand of football in recent weeks and a sprint through the emotions seemingly comes as standard. Booed at half-time, Arsene Wenger's players won back their home crowd with a stirring fightback and they were close to landing the knock-out blow.

For Liverpool it had threatened to be a landmark victory, a first triumph over a team in the top half of the Premier League table and a balm to the horror of Sunday's FA Cup exit at League One Oldham Athletic. They seized on Arsenal's early nerves and punished them for their dismal defending. Brendan Rodgers had been scathing in his criticism of the young players after Oldham and it had been felt by the dressing-room. He heaped praise on his team for the response.

And yet it could have ended in defeat for the visitors. Arsenal had trailed for the fifth league game in succession - this team has an addiction to adversity of its own making - but after Theo Walcott's equaliser, they had the chances to have won. Liverpool were forced to cling on, even if Luis Suarez had two late sniffs to wrest back the full points. His second effort led to Wojciech Szczesny almost spilling the ball into the far corner.

Both Suarez chances were marked by the Arsenal substitute Andre Santos' own brand of slapstick defending. He had entered the fray as a 37th-minute replacement for the injured Kieran Gibbs and there was an audible intake of breath when Wenger revealed that the left-back had a thigh strain that would rule him out for three weeks.

The obvious question: could Wenger get a replacement in before tonight's transfer deadline? The prospect of Santos for three weeks would surely be too much for the Arsenal support. "I will see what I can do," Wenger said. "It is a big blow." He meant the loss of Gibbs.

Wenger spoke of how Arsenal might have lost but, equally, how they could have won by three or four. It was difficult to argue. Recent history had unnerved his players again at the outset, he said, and although he trumpeted their spirit, the overriding emotion was frustration at points dropped. At full-time some of his players dropped to their haunches.

This had seemed like a six-pointer in the fight for a Champions League finish and Suarez's 22nd goal of the season had Wenger lamenting a series of defensive blunders. The first mistake, ironically, was Liverpool'swhen Suarez miskicked as he sought to find the overlapping Glen Johnson but Bacary Sagna trumped that by falling over to allow the full-back through.

Johnson crossed, Thomas Vermaelen made a hash of the attempted clearance and Daniel Sturridge forced Szczesny to save. Aaron Ramsey, though, still could not clear and, when Jordan Henderson passed to Suarez, his shot deflected past Szczesny. The arrival of the Keystone Cops would have completed the scene.

It was open, unpredictable and gripping. Szczesny summed things up when he attempted to fox Sturridge with a Cruyff-turn on his own six-yard line, except that he got it wrong and only a desperate foot-in spared him from an impossible explanation.

Arsenal had first-half chances. Walcott almost equalised immediately when he took Jack Wilshere's ball and forced Pepe Reina to save; Olivier Giroud flickered and Walcott drew the Liverpool goalkeeper into another stop, this one a full-length dive, after Daniel Agger's challenge had halted Vermaelen.

Liverpool's first-half chances were equally clear-cut. Sturridge, released by Suarez's crossfield ball, shot wastefully; Agger had a thumping header from Steven Gerrard's corner cleared off the line by Lukas Podolski and Henderson, confronted by Szczesny off his line, checked and flighted a 30-yard chip just over.

Henderson's performance would have impressed the watching England manager, Roy Hodgson, although his goal was marked by further comic defensive cuts. Henderson did not appear the favourite to power between Per Mertesacker and Santos, but he did so, and he would argue that he earned the luck that followed. Ramsey's tackle on him saw the ball canon off Santos, wrong-foot Szczesny and allow Henderson to roll home. Liverpool had penalty appeals for handball against Vermaelen rejected on 50 minutes and yet, in breathless fashion, Arsenal rallied.

In the space of five minutes they not only restored parity but they were within a whisker of leading. Giroud's header from Wilshere's free-kick and Walcott's thumping finish, after slick build-up play, rocked Liverpool and the England winger nearly floored them when he blasted just wide of the far post.

Arsenal ratcheted up the pressure. Santi Cazorla and Giroud, twice, went close before Suarez almost stole the victory. It was one of the games of the season but Wenger wanted points not plaudits.

Arsenal 4-2-3-1

Szczesny; Sagna, Mertesacker*, Vermaelen, Gibbs (Santos, 37); Ramsey, Wilshere; Walcott, Cazorla*, Podolski; Giroud*.

Subs not used

Mannone, Koscielny, Jenkinson, Diaby, Rosicky, Oxlade-Chamberlain.

Liverpool 4-1-4-1

Reina; Wisdom, Carragher, Agger, Johnson; Lucas; Downing, Gerrard*, Henderson, Suarez; Sturridge (Jose Enrique, 70).

Subs not used

Jones, Skrtel, Allen, Sterling, Shelvey, Borini.

Referee K Friend

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The Mail

WALCOTT TO THE RESCUE; Theo saves point after Arsenal's awful start

AFTER the Oldham debacle, Brendan Rodgers demanded a reaction and in those situations it is always good to run into a defence like Arsenal's -- one liable to self-destruct. Luis Suarez fired Liverpool ahead inside five minutes after a calamitous sequence of events featuring Arsene Wenger's defenders and the visitors seemed to be on the way to victory when Jordan Henderson extended the lead on the hour. But Wenger's team have the confusing habit of starting to play when they are two down, as they had against Manchester City and at Chelsea. The Arsenal manager puts it down to confidence and belief, and sure enough, Olivier Giroud pulled one back before Theo Walcott, in irrepressible form, levelled with a sweet strike. Only four survived the chop from the Liverpool team embarrassingly beaten in the FA Cup at Oldham, with Rodgers reverting to the outfield 10 who started the 5-0 win against Norwich.

They were given absolutely nothing by a League One outfit at Boundary Park on Sunday but, back in the Premier League, they were helped into a fifth-minute lead by the Gunners. Suarez scored the goal, his 22nd of the season, following a catalogue of defensive mistakes. Bacary Sagna stumbled over his own feet and landed on his backside as he tried to adjust and collect a mishit pass by Suarez intended for Glen Johnson. The Liverpool full back was able to pick up the loose ball and whipped a low cross into the area. Thomas Vermaelen missed his chance to clear and it fell to Daniel Sturridge at the far post.

Sturridge twisted inside, shot and forced a good block from Wojciech Szczesny. Henderson was alert to the rebound, seizing possession quickly and prodding a pass to Suarez, who swung at goal. His effort clipped Per Mertesacker and evaded Szczesny. Wenger must have been furious. It was an awful start. The home crowd were not impressed, aiming their abuse at Sagna, the current whipping boy.

Arsenal responded well with a move which will have satisfied watching England manager Roy Hodgson. With wonderful vision, Jack Wilshere unzipped the Liverpool defence to release Theo Walcott, who unleashed a fierce effort that was well saved by Pepe Reina at his near post.

Olivier Giroud sliced a tricky chance wide, Daniel Agger blocked a Vermaelen drive with his head and Reina produced another wonderful save from Walcott. This time he was at full stretch, diving to his left as the England winger curled a right-foot shot towards the far corner.

Walcott set up Giroud before half time but the French striker headed straight at the keeper. Arsenal were slick going forward.

The problem was they were wide open at the back, unable or unwilling to contain the excellent energy and mobility of Suarez, Sturridge and Stewart Downing and susceptible to the forging runs of Henderson and Steven Gerrard.

Sturridge twice went close and Suarez lashed another shot across goal after losing his markers with the slightest movement.

Perhaps unsurprisingly behind this chaos, Szczesny appeared nervous. The Pole came from his line to reach a high corner and was nowhere near as Agger's header was hacked off the goalline by Lukas Podolski.

Problems worsened for Wenger when Kieran Gibbs limped off eight minutes before the interval, to be replaced by Andre Santos. A collective groan lapped around The Emirates. Santos was booed off at Brighton on Saturday.

Henderson burst from midfield on to a perfect pass from Downing which tempted Szczesny out of his goal. From wide on the left, with the keeper marooned, Henderson turned and chipped at goal over the heads of the recovering defenders only to see his excellent effort drop on to the top of the net.

Referee Kevin Friend waved aside penalty appeals from both sides early in the second half. First Vermaelen handled under pressure from Sturridge but it was not intentional and then Podolski collapsed in the area beside Andre Wisdom in what seemed an act of desperation.

Wilshere became increasingly influential as Arsenal squeezed the visitors back. Walcott arrived late on to a cross from Podolski but could not control his header, which flashed over.

The Gunners, however, are often at their most vulnerable when they are dominating and, on the hour, Henderson struck with a terrific solo effort. Accepting the ball on the right, he dodged Mertesacker and held off Santos, took a lucky ricochet off Aaron Ramsey and was left to slide the ball into an empty net. Giroud quickly pulled one back, leaping to head a Wilshere free-kick into the net with 21 minutes left before Walcott lashed in the equaliser, his 18th of the campaign. Anything Oldham can do.

The Daily Telegraph

Walcott completes Arsenal fightback

Arsenal 2 Giroud 64, Walcott 67
Liverpool 2 Suarez 5, Henderson 60 Att: 60,089

Arsenal continue to serve up the sublime and the ridiculous. Their defending was so poor for an hour, allowingLiverpool to score through Luis Suarez inevitably and Jordan Henderson surprisingly, before they played some exhilarating football, claiming a point through Olivier Giroud and Theo Walcott.

Arsenal still need reinforcing and Andre Santos remains an accident in progress at left-back. Liverpool tired as the game wore on, struggling to maintain their phenomenal work-rate past the hour-mark, but they will take heart from the growing understanding between Suarez and Daniel Sturridge, signs that Pepe Reina is returning to form and by the point. Liverpool fans also made a point, protesting against ticket prices.

Brendan Rodgers had demanded a stronger approach physically and mentally, and Liverpool had quickly set about pressing Arsenal, playing with energy and tactical discipline. Suarez was a persistent force down the left, linking well at times with the central Daniel Sturridge. Steven Gerrard and Lucas shielded the backfour.Liverpool were so good for 60 minutes, before Arsenal raised themselves from the depth.

Until the hour-mark, Liverpool looked more committed, better organised and they soon took the lead. As impressively as Liverpool attacked after five minutes, Arsenal's defending was as grotesque as a row of gargoyles. When Suarez moved down the left, his pass should still have been picked off but Bacary Sagna slipped. It set the tone for Arsenal's level of resistance. Glen Johnson crossed from the left and this time it was Thomas Vermaelen erring, failing to cut out the ball which continued on its merry way to Sturridge. Wojciech Szczesny did his job, saving the shot, but possession was immediately regained by Liverpool. Henderson simply laid the ball off to Suarez, whose shot deflected in off Per Mertesacker. Arsenal continued to offer gifts to their guests. Arsenal lost the ball high up the field, Henderson quickly finding Suarez. The Uruguayan lifted a clever diagonal pass over Vermaelen and into the path of Sturridge. The England striker shot wide but the danger continued. Szczesny decided to attempt some fancy footwork and almost presented Sturridge with a free shot at goal.

It got worse for Arsenal before it got better. Kieran Gibbs' wretched injury record continued and he hobbled away, replaced by Andre Santos, which hardly lifted the home fans' hopes. Arsenal had their chances to score in the first half. Walcott, so good after the break, tested Pepe Reina. Then Lukas Podolski crossed low from the left, the ball angled back to the onrushing Giroud, whose shot skewed over. Walcott then cut in from the left, curling in a shot athletically pushed away by Reina.

The Spanish keeper, patrolling his area, making some good saves, looked far more like the commanding presence of a few years back. Reina then twisted his body to clear a goalbound interception from Gerrard of a Podolski cross. So weak against Oldham Athletic's 6 ft 6 in Matt Smith last Sunday, Liverpool were far more robust for an hour here. Jamie Carragher's return helped.

Daniel Agger was doing well at both ends. First he met a Gerrard corner, eluding Szczesny with a determined leap and heading goalwards. Arsenal were fortunate that Podolski was well-placed on the line. Back down the other end, Agger nipped in front of Giroud to head clear.

Arsenal, for all their uncertainty, kept making chances but first Reina held Giroud's header, then Gerrard blocked a Cazorla shot. Yet Liverpool should have finished the half leading by two but Henderson decided to chip Szczesny and found only the top of the net. He could have squared the ball to better-placed team-mates.

Frustration briefly flared in the stands with two Arsenal fans being led out by stewards. The home support's mood darkened further when Henderson cut into the box, gliding past Mertesacker and Santos, losing then regaining the ball before scoring with a low shot as Sagna slid in.

The Emirates was turning all querulous but suddenly the team clicked in to gear. Suddenly, they began performing closer to their potential.

Walcott was more of a threat. Cazorla began influencing matters while Wilshere demonstrated his class in front of the watching Roy Hodgson. Wilshere lifted in a freekick and Giroud exploited momentary hesitancy in theLiverpool defence to head past Reina. One quickly became two, in elegant fashion. Arsenal's equaliser was a gem, a reminder of their one-touch class. The ball journeyed from Sagna to Cazorla and into Giroud, whose layoff to Walcott was perfect. The finish was unstoppable, Walcott driving the ball past Reina.

Occasional ugly moments broke up the flow. Gerrard launched himself towards Mertesacker, catching the German, and earning a booking. The football immediately reclaimed everyone's attention. Arsenal counterattacked. Walcott fed Giroud, whose low shot was pushed away by Reina for a corner. Cazorla curled in the ball from the flag towards Giroud, who headed over. Giroud was then cautioned for simulation; although there was the tiniest of contacts with Agger he went down with ludicrous ease. Giroud still seemed distracted moments later when squandering a wonderful close-range opportunity, unable to make contact, and the ball carrying through to Reina.

Arsenal fans sighed with frustration, and that soon became indignation when Santos allowed himself to be turned too easily by Stewart Downing. As a compelling game tore through four added minutes, more chaotic defending by Santos allowed Suarez a run at goal, but Szczesny saved.

Arsenal (4-2-3-1): Szczesny; Sagna, Mertesacker, Vermaelen, Gibbs (Santos 37); Ramsey, Wilshere; Walcott, Cazorla, Podolski; Giroud. Subs: Mannone (g), Koscielny, Jenkinson, Diaby, Rosicky, Oxlade-Chamberlain. Booked: Cazorla, Giroud, Mertesacker.

Liverpool (4-3-3): Reina; Wisdom, Agger, Carragher, Johnson; Henderson, Lucas, Gerrard; Downing, Sturridge (Enrique 71), Suarez. Subs: Jones (g), Skrtel, Allen, Sterling, Shelvey, Borini. Booked: Gerrard.

Referee: K Friend (Leicestershire).

Compiled by Graeme Riley

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30 January 2013

THE INDEPENDENT

Suarez's hard shift gives Liverpool wings

There are times when disrupting your best player is the right thing to do. Liverpool's Brendan Rodgers played Luis Suarez out of position last night, for the greater good, and it nearly won him the game.

Should it really have been a surprise that Suarez, the most exciting forward in the Premier League, was both so thrilling and so efficient on the left wing? Rodgers needs to find a way to start Daniel Sturridge up front, even if that means - on first glance - negating his best player. But football is a team game and sometimes, when done in the right manner, compromising a strength can be worthwhile.

So it was last night at the Emirates. Suarez (left) might, conceivably, have done even more had he played up front but the team, for the first hour at least, as Liverpool took a 2-0 lead, worked best with him on the wing.

It was a broad role, requiring him to stay wide and hassle Bacary Sagna while, whenever possible, providing a threat in the penalty box too. He achieved this perfectly within just five minutes, putting Liverpool ahead.

Suarez, at heart, is a disrupter and a pest, a footballing teaser and taunter. In one of the first moves of the game he won a corner from Sagna and, soon after, started and ended the move from which Liverpool took the lead.

It began with Suarez darting away from Sagna to receive a pass and flick it round the corner. The pass did not work, but Sagna was wrong-footed by the movement and slipped. Glen Johnson took the ball, crossed and, via Thomas Vermaelen, Sturridge, Wojciech Szczesny, Aaron Ramsey and Stewart Downing, it returned to Suarez, who finished via a deflection.

The move started and ended with Suarez's instinctive and incisive play, just as dangerous coming in from the wing as starting from the front.

Suarez is often accused of selfishness, as any player so far superior to his team-mates will be. But even when on the wing, he has the vision and the technical ability to deliver the ball better than some of the other specialist wide players at his club.

Five minutes after scoring the first, Suarez nearly made a second. Receiving the ball near the halfway line on the left wing, Suarez chested it down, let it bounce, chested it on and then volleyed diagonally across the pitch beyond Vermaelen and into the path of Sturridge. The finish was difficult and Liverpool's new striker could not make it but as a moment of creation out of nothing at all, it was one of the best you will see this season.

But there is more to playing on the wing than just these moments of advanced technical quality. If that is all Rodgers wanted he might as well have played Suarez up front. The rest of the job, the ugly, dirty work, the work which Dirk Kuyt took to so well at Liverpool, Suarez did just as well.

Sagna is not quite the full-back he was but Suarez chased him back down the wing, pushing him off the ball, playing with just as much conviction and desire in his half as he usually does in the opponent's. His labours on the halfway line earned valuable free-kicks and even a yellow card for Santi Cazorla, disrupting Arsenal's rhythm.

The home side did eventually impose themselves on the game and Rodgers had to readjust in an attempt to take the lead. Bringing Jose Enrique on, Suarez was moved up front and in the fourth minute of added time he nearly showed what a rather useful striker he is too, forcing Szczesny to make a good diving save that prevented Suarez from winning the game 3-2.

DAILY Mirror

FLAW BACK

IT WAS defending you will never find in a coaching manual.

But an incredible catalogue of mistakes provided the stage for one of the most entertaining games of the season at the Emirates.

The result was not particularly helpful for either team's ambitions of reaching the top four. But it is hard to believe you can defend as badly as this and still get into the Champions League.

Wojciech Szczesny, with his team already a goal down, surely provided the most comical moment - which summed up this farcical contest - as the Arsenal keeper tried a Cruyff turn in his own six-yard box.

Szczesny got away with it as Daniel Sturridge nicked the ball but the Arsenal keeper recovered just in time.

But Arsenal were not so lucky when Luis Suarez and Jordan Henderson took full advantage of two more awful pieces of defending to fire Liverpool into a two-goal lead on the hour mark.

It looked all over for Arsenal yet Arsene Wenger's comeback kings rose again as Olivier Giroud and Theo Walcott (inset) levelled with neither side able to land the knockout blow.

But at least the Arsenal programme will have another impressive stat for their next edition on Saturday. Last night, they printed the Premier League table based on first-half and second-half results.

Arsenal were 12th in the first half and second in the table on second-half results. Quite what that proves is anyone's guess apart from the fact that Wenger has begun editing the programme as well as having a say on everything else at the Emirates.

enger he s That is because matches are actually played over 90 minutes.

Wenger needs to stop looking for excuses and find solutions. top s and Brendan Rodgers has done that and, even though they threw away a two-goal lead, they look more upwardly mobile than Arsenal.

Rodgers rallied his troops after Sunday's FA Cup humiliation at Oldham and Suarez and Sturridge helped them provide a thrilling counter-attacking display which frightened the life out of Arsenal's defence. Liverpool took the lead after just five minutes. Bacary Sagna's slip let in Glen Johnson and his low cross was missed by Thomas Vermaelen and Sturridge saw his shot saved well by Szczesny.

The ball broke, Aaron Ramsey failed to clear, Henderson fed Suarez and the Liverpool striker's shot deflected off Per Mertesacker and past Szczesny.

Andre Santos came on for the injured Kieran Gibbs and Sturridge went close twice as Arsenal's defensive failings were exposed time and again.

defen exa At the other end, Wenger's men pushed hard but somehow Liverpool survived through a mix of last-ditch clearances and Pepe Reina's saves.

c Re Liv LIVERPOOL could have gone further ahead before the break as Henderson chipped onto the roof of the net and Lukas Podolski headed Daniel Agger's header off the line.

But finally Liverpool got their second after an hour. Henderson cut inside Santos and beat Ramsey, the ball cannoned back off Santos and Henderson put it into the net.

It looked game over. Liverpool deserved to be ahead. But Arsenal's only saving grace is their comeback spirit which is typified by Jack Wilshere. He floated over a 65th-minute free-kick and Giroud rose above theLiverpool defence to head powerfully into the net for his 14th of the season.

Two minutes later, Santi Cazorla linked up with Giroud who turned provider with a lovely lay-off - his 10th assist of the season - for Walcott to arrow a fierce shot into the far corner.

Both teams could have won it. Giroud failed to capitalise on a great opening while Suarez went very close. It was a fair result and a cracking game.

But Liverpool look on the up and up and have bought well in January. Wenger, meanwhile, has kept his chequebook closed as he claims he cannot find better players than he has already got. With a few notable exceptions, that is a damning indictment on world football.

ARSENAL: Szczesny 4, Sagna 4, Mertesacker 5, Vermaelen 5, Gibbs 5 (Santos 37, 4), Wilshere 8, Ramsey 6, Cazorla 7, Walcott 7, Podolski 7, Giroud 7. LIVERPOOL: Reina 7, Wisdom 5, Carragher 5, Agger 6, Johnson 6, Lucas 6, Gerrard 7, Henderson 6, Downing 7, Suarez 8, Sturridge 7 (Enrique 71, 6).

REFEREE: Kevin Friend ATT: 60,089

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LIVERPOOL ECHO

IT WASN'T just Liverpool's supporters who left the capital feeling short-changed last night. An evening which began with protests in the away end at the sky-high price of watching football at the Emirates ended with Brendan Rodgers' players walking away cursing the fact they didn't have more to show for their efforts.
This was a story of what might have been as Liverpool allowed a potentially season-turning result to slip through their fingers.
Goals from Luis Suarez and Jordan Henderson had put the Reds 2-0 up and on course for the most cherished victory of Rodgers' reign.
Liverpool had fashioned the perfect response to their manager's stinging criticism in the aftermath of the FA Cup defeat to Oldham. However, the inconsistency which has hampered their progress this season reared its ugly head again.
In the space of seven manic second-half minutes Arsenal punished some hesitant defending as Olivier Giroud and Theo Walcott restored parity.
From a position of strength, Liverpool were left grimly hanging on for a point before a late flourish almost yielded a dramatic winner. Bitter disappointment was mixed with pride at how the Reds had outplayed the Gunners for long periods. After the final whistle the 3,000 Kopites, who had paid £62 for the privilege to watch on, showed their appreciation for a bold display with a warm ovation. Ultimately, it wasn't the result Liverpool cherished to kick-start a push towards the Champions League spot, but they will head to the Etihad to face Manchester City on Sunday with belief restored.
If their FA Cup exit highlighted the lack of depth in Rodgers' squad, this contest provided a reminder that their best XI can be a match for anyone in the top flight. Andre Wisdom, Henderson, Suarez and Daniel Sturridge were the only survivors from the weekend and the tempo and intensity Liverpool played with from the start was a world away from their insipid efforts at Boundary Park.
They tore into Arsenal and ably assisted by some wretched defending, they got their reward inside six minutes. Bacary Sagna's slip allowed Glen Johnson to race away down the left and his low cross was missed by Thomas Vermaelen and found Sturridge at the back post. The striker's shot was blocked by Wojciech Szczesny, but Henderson pounced on the rebound and laid it off to Suarez, whose strike deflected in off Per Mertesacker for his 22nd goal of the season.
The manic celebrations in the away end were still continuing when seconds later Liverpool enjoyed a major let-off. Walcott broke clear but Pepe Reina came to the rescue with a brilliant one-handed save. The tone for the opening 45 minutes had been set. Suarez demonstrated his versatility with another scintillating performance on the left and with Stewart Downing continuing his fine form on the other flank, Sturridge was never short of support.
When Rodgers' side counter-attacked at pace, the Gunners struggled to contain them. Suarez found Sturridge with a stunning pass with the outside of his right boot. But the £12million man opted to hit it first time and dragged his shot wide. The Reds rode their luck at times but there was no doubting the commitment levels. Jamie Carragher demonstrated why he has jumped back above Martin Skrtel in the pecking order as he put his body on the line to halt the hosts' advances. Giroud fired wide before Agger's brave block thwarted Vermaelen. The rebound dropped kindly to Walcott and his curler was expertly clawed behind by Reina. Midway through the first half Liverpool were carved apart again. The impressive Santi Cazorla found Lukas Podolski who teed up Giroud. The Frenchman looked destined to convert but Gerrard got back to make a goal-saving intervention. The Reds weathered the storm and soon threatened to add to their tally. Gerrard's corner was nodded goalwards by Daniel Agger but Podolski hacked it off the line. Henderson flourished in an advanced central role playing behind Sturridge, finding space in front of the Gunners' back four and using the ball intelligently. His confidence is high and after a desperately slow start to his Reds career that natural ability is shining through.
Just before the break Henderson latched on to Downing's defence-splitting pass. Szczesny raced out to meet him and from a tight angle Henderson's lob landed on the roof of the net. Both sides had shouts for a penalty waved away by referee Kevin Friend early in the second half.
First, Vermaelen got away with handling inside the area as he grappled with Sturridge and then at the other end Wisdom was relieved after Podolski took a tumble over his leg. Arsenal switfly cranked up the pressure with Walcott nodding over before Carragher was left needing treatment after Podolski's piledriver struck him in the midriff. Liverpool broke off the shackles to devastating effect on the hour mark. There appeared to be little danger when Henderson received possession 25 yards out. However, he proceeded to burst past Mertesacker before holding off the attentions of substitute Andre Santos. Ramsey's challenge saw the ball ricochet back into Henderson's path and he coolly finished.
The six previous battles with Manchester United, Arsenal, Tottenham, Manchester City and Chelsea this term had yielded just two points, but at 2-0 up Liverpool stood on the brink of achieving only their second away league win over the Gunners in 13 attempts Yet that lead was frittered away and question marks over the Reds' mental strength remain. Defending set-pieces has been an issue all season and Giroud was left unmarked six yards out to head home Wilshere's free-kick. The Reds then backed off and allowed Cazorla and Giroud to find Walcott, who gleefully drilled into the bottom corner. It was too easy.
The game was transformed and Reina was then relieved to see Walcott's curler drop just wide of the far post. Rodgers took action as Jose Enrique replaced Sturridge and Suarez was moved central. Arsenal continued to turn the screw with Mertesacker going close before Cazorla's cross-shot flew just wide. Reina denied Giroud, who then somehow fluffed a simple chance from close range. Liverpool regrouped and could have stolen victory late on but Suarez's fierce drive was turned away by Szczesny. It was a night of promise laced with frustration.
ARSENAL (4-2-3-1): Szczesny, Sagna, Mertesacker, Vermaelen, Gibbs (Santos 37), Ramsey, Wilshere, Walcott, Cazorla, Podolski, Giroud.
Not used: Mannone, Koscielny, Jenkinson, Diaby, Oxlade-Chamberlain, Rosicky.
LIVERPOOL (4-2-3-1): Reina, Wisdom, Agger, Carragher, Johnson, Lucas, Gerrard, Downing, Henderson, Suarez, Sturridge (Enrique 70).
Not used: Jones, Skrtel, Shelvey, Allen, Borini, Sterling.
GOALS: Suarez 6, Henderson 60, Giroud 64, Walcott 67.
BOOKINGS: Cazorla, Gerrard, Giroud, Mertesacker.
REFEREE: Kevin Friend. ATTENDANCE: 60,089.

LIVERPOOL DAILY POST

LIVERPOOL may still not have beaten a team in the top half of the table this season. But Brendan Rodgers' bruised and battered troops claimed a morale boosting point at one of the most daunting destinations.
And for more than an hour of a pulsating clash at Arsenal's Emirates Stadium, it looked like they were going to bury that top-half jinx in style. The Reds led 2-0 thanks to a fortunate first half strike from Luis Suarez and a stunning second half finish by Jordan Henderson. But the visitors fatally switched off and two goals in three minutes from Lukas Podolsi and Theo Walcott dashed hopes of a famous victory. Manager Rodgers had claimed pre-match his team would find it "easy" to bounce back from Sunday's Cup humiliation at Oldham, because his players were "hurting" so much. It took them precisely four minutes to do just that.
But while it was the travelling Kop who were celebrating, the goal had more than an element of Keystone Cops about it from the Arsenal rearguard.
Bacary Sagna looked in complete control of Daniel Agger's pass to Glen Johnson, but slipped comically. Johnson's cross should have been cleared by Thomas Vermaelen, but he took a wild air shot to give Daniel Sturridge a chance just six yards out.
His shot was blocked by Wojciech Szcesny, the ball rolled to Per Mertesacker who couldn't clear and Henderson teed up Suarez eight yards out.
Even then the shot lacked conviction but the ball clipped off Sagna and into the Gunners net. Not that anyone was complaining.
If that effort carried a touch of good fortune, there was nothing fortuitous about the chance Suarez carved out for his strike partner six minutes later.
The pass from Henderson to Suarez – occupying the left flank role – was good, but Suarez's volleyed outside of the foot pass to Sturridge was sublime. It had weight, accuracy and imagination, but Sturridge's shot didn't carry the same qualities and flew a foot wide. Stung by the visitors' flying start Arsenal enjoyed a spell of prolonged pressure. Olivier Giroud side footed wide after a flowing move, Theo Walcott's attempted curler was tipped wide by Pepe Reina's outstretched fingertips, then Steven Gerrard slid in to heroically stop Lukas Podolski's cross reaching Giroud. But in amongst Arsenal's free-flowing football Liverpool looked ominously dangerous on the counter. In the 27th minute the visitors almost doubled their lead. Daniel Agger got a towering header to Gerrard's corner but Podolski was perfectly positioned to boot off the line.
The same duo combined again nine minutes before the break, this time from a free-kick, but while Szczesny dived to save a linesman's flag had already signalled offside. Liverpool were finding plenty of holes in a porous rearguard and two minutes before the break carved another gaping chunk out of the Gunners defence whiuch should really have yielded a second goal.
Stewart Downing's pass from the left touchline found Henderson chasing forward in the inside-left channel with Szczesny hopelessly exposed. The keeper raced out to quickly try and close down Henderson who attempted a chip from the edge of the area, only to see the ball drop onto the roof of the net.
The half-time interval came at the right time for the flagging home side and they came out for the second period re-energised and ready to take the game to the Reds. But they met a fiercely resistant rearguard.
If the defending at Boundary Park three days earlier had been meek, at the Emirates it was mighty. First Lucas and then Jamie Carragher threw themselves in the way of Podolski piledrivers – and the closest Arsenal came was when Walcott escaped at the far post and directed a header just over.
The resilience and defensive derring do was rewarded just before the hour when Henderson snatched a stunning second. Sturridge, who had been leading the line almost on his own since the restart, carried the ball forward and prodded it through for the only player to get up and support him, Jordan Henderson.
Then when Sturridge slipped the midfielder was left pretty much on his own with three defenders covering. No matter. He cut out two by slipping cleverly between Mertesacker and Santos, held off Ramsey, got the luck he deserved when the ball bounced back to him and prodded the ball past Szczesny.
Liverpool celebrated riotously, but the celebrations proved premature.
The Gunners drew level with two strikes in the space of three minutes. First Giroud escaped Agger's marking to plant a downwards header past Reina, then

Compiled by Graeme Riley

more slackness in the Reds rearguard gave Walcott an opening and he thundered an angled finish past the exposed keeper.
From scenting a first victory over a top six side this season, Liverpool had to think about hanging on for a point, and with 20 minutes remaining the tiring Sturridge was replaced by fit again defender Jose Enrique.
A typical Arsenal counter, conducted at breakneck speed from a Liverpool corner, saw Santi Cazorla fizz a shot across the face of the Reds box, then Reina had to dive full length to his right to push a Giroud daisy cutter around the post.
Henderson's astonishing engine kept him urging his team forward and he started a move which ended with Downing cutting a cross back for Suarez to fire over.
Suarez went even closer with 30 seconds left, Szczesny plunging to his right to parry a goalbound strike from the Uruguayan.
But a rousing chorus of Walk On from the travelling fans showed that they appreciated what had been a hard earned point and restored pride at Anfield.

London Evening Standard

It is the curse of this Arsenal team that their beguiling attack is often called upon to atone for the mistakes of their catastrophic defence. They do make life hard for themselves, but what a joy it can be to watch.
These two sides are not, for now at least, troubling the top four but they produced a match that was full of the things that make football interesting. There were mistakes aplenty, mainly in the Arsenal defence it should be said, but when they attacked, both teams did so with the kind of intensity that has been lacking from both during the season.
It was Arsène Wenger's side that had the best of it, but they had to chase a two-goal lead gifted to Liverpool that goals from Olivier Giroud and Theo Walcott wiped out in the space of three minutes after the hour. For that two-goal deficit they could blame the likes of Per Mertesacker, who was pretty woeful, and there was even a cameo from Andre Santos that became edge-of-the-seat stuff at the end.
As for Liverpool, they took their chances well. First through Luis Suarez and later, when Jordan Henderson's perseverance allowed him a route through the heart of Arsenal's defence. It means that Arsenal remain four points off Tottenham in fourth place and there was frustration at the final whistle from the fans, although relief as well. One place behind them in seventh, Liverpool have made no ground up on the top four either.
It was a glorious first half. Mishap and counter-attack. The play moving from one end to the other with the reckless abandon of the last moments of a cup tie.
Within five minutes Suarez had opened the scoring for Liverpool and in response the home team were pricked into life.
Just before kick-off, the Liverpool fans protested the £62 away end ticket prices with a banner that asked if football was still "a working-class sport". The 22 millionaires on the pitch were the most succinct answer to that question. No ticket for a game should be worth that much but at least this one had an edge.
First blood to Liverpool, but what a comic sequence of misjudgements, slips and pratfalls by the Arsenal defence to create it for them. First Bacary Sagna slipped over on the right to allow Glen Johnson, playing at left-back, to cross; then Thomas Vermaelen had an ideal chance to cut the ball out but missed it.
At that point Arsenal were in danger but Wojciech Szczesny saved well from Daniel Sturridge. To compound the pressure, Jack Wilshere failed to get any distance on an ill-advised flick in his own area. Henderson pushed the ball left to Suarez and his shot went in off Mertesacker.
Just one mistake would have encapsulated the frustration that the home fans feel about this side. That they made arguably four in the build-up to that goal ensured that the mood in the Emirates plunged. Playing on the counter-attack Liverpool, who got men behind the ball when they were not in possession, were brilliant.
There was an inspired volleyed crossfield pass from Suarez to Sturridge on the right wing. Szczesny tried to turn with the ball away from the former Chelsea man and very nearly found himself dispossessed.
It looked bad for Arsenal at that point but they roused themselves. Lukas Podolski cut the ball back from the left and Giroud had a shot saved. Pepe Reina threw himself full-length to push the ball around the post from Walcott's shot. Steven Gerrard got himself in front of a cross from Podolski that was aimed at Giroud.
In that period of pressure Liverpool had to survive and with Jamie Carragher a surprise inclusion in the centre of defence they did so well. They fell back for much of the latter stages of the half but with the Arsenal defence so unpredictable there was always the sniff of a chance. Like when Mertesacker gave the ball to Henderson and Vermaelen was forced to steal the ball away from Suarez.
There was also a goalline clearance from Podolski when Szczesny came for a Gerrard corner and failed to get it, giving Daniel Agger a header with a sight of goal. If Arsenal did not feel under enough pressure, an injury to Kieran Gibbs meant Santos came on for his eighth league appearance of the season.
Arsenal's attackers were having to outscore their defence, and when they fell two goals behind on the hour there was not quite the pessimism you might imagine around the stadium. They were hopeless at the back but up front there was always promise.
The second goal was another bad moment for Mertesacker, who let Henderson past him too easily. Santos intervened and it got little better. When Aaron Ramsey made a tackle, the ball ricocheted back off Santos and fell nicely for Henderson to prod in.
That was on the hour; within five minutes Giroud had scored Arsenal's first, a firm downward header from Wilshere's free-kick with Carragher and Agger both missing. The second was a beauty. Sagna and Santi Cazorla combined to make the space and then Giroud set the ball beautifully for Walcott to smash in.
Liverpool came back into the game towards the end, but Giroud's failure to score from Podolski's cross was the best chance of all to win it.
Man of the match Wilshere.
Match rating 8/10.
Referee K Friend (Leicestershire).
Attendance 60,089.

BBC

Arsenal rescued a point with a stirring comeback after Liverpool looked like they would recover from their shock FA Cup defeat by Oldham with victory at Emirates Stadium.
Luis Suarez and Jordan Henderson took full advantage of an Arsenal defensive display that plumbed the depths to put Brendan Rodgers's side on course for victory after an hour.
But Arsenal showed great resolve to respond swiftly and score twice inside three minutes through Olivier Giroud and Theo Walcott and ensure a thrilling game ended in a draw.
Liverpool will be disappointed at conceding that two-goal advantage while Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger may regard a point as a relief, such was the generosity of the defending that presented the visitors with so many opportunities.
Defender Martin Skrtel paid the price for Liverpool's FA Cup loss at League One Oldham as he was dropped in favour of Jamie Carragher.
If Carragher's presence was designed to give Liverpool's rearguard more security, Arsenal spent the first 45 minutes producing such an utterly chaotic defensive shambles that they were lucky not to be punished more heavily than they were.
The tone was set when Liverpool took the lead after five minutes. Bacary Sagna fell over as Suarez missed a flick and when Arsenal failed to clear after Wojciech Szczesny saved from Daniel Sturridge, the Uruguayan scored with the help of a deflection.
Liverpool keeper Pepe Reina prevented Arsenal equalising instantly as he blocked a Walcott effort at his near post - and it was not long before Suarez was creating more havoc for Arsenal.
He released Sturridge with a magical swerving pass with the outside of his foot but his strike partner chose to take the chance first time and rolled his effort tamely wide.
Walcott was Arsenal's main danger and he forced another excellent diving save from Reina, but any good work the Gunners were doing in attack was being badly undermined by a succession of calamities at the other end.
Lukas Podolski cleared Daniel Agger's header off the line and Henderson landed an effort on the roof of the net with Szczesny stranded out of his ground trying to rescue another desperate situation.
Arsenal had suffered a blow when the luckless Kieran Gibbs limped off to be replaced by Andre Santos but there could be no excuse for the standard of defending that had presented Liverpool with so much space and opportunity.
There was no escape for Arsenal as Liverpool doubled their lead on the hour. In a moment that encapsulated the game to that point, Henderson battled his way past four home defenders in the area before rolling home a goal his determination deserved.
Arsenal, perhaps in desperation, suddenly roused themselves and were level within seven minutes. Giroud powered in a close-range header then Walcott got his reward with a fine angled shot that carried too much pace and power for Reina.
As both sides continued to attack, Santi Cazorla flashed a shot across the face of goal and Reina excelled once more as he dived to his right to save from Giroud.
Giroud was then unable to complete Arsenal's recovery and put them ahead as he failed to make firm contact with Podokski's cross fromsix yards out.
Liverpool had a chance of their own in stoppage time when Santos, unsurprisingly, gifted the visitors possession in a dangerous area and it took a sharp stop from Szczesny to deny Suarez and ensure Arsenal's recovery earned them a point.
Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger: "We created many chances going forward but were nervous defensively. The goals we have conceded show we were nervous from the start.
"It was entertainment. We could honestly have lost the game but could have won it by three or four goals."
Liverpool boss Brendan Rodgers: "There is an initial disappointment when you are 2-0 up [and draw] but we knew Arsenal were going to have a spell.
"We could have had a few more goals but my overriding emotion is one of pride. These players have been brilliant."

Compiled by Graeme Riley

Date: 30 January 2013
Opposition: Arsenal
Competition: League

BBC	Times	Telegraph	Echo
	Guardian	Mirror	Post
	Independent	Mail	Standard

30 January 2013

BBC

90:00+4:07Full time The final whistle is blown by the referee.
90:00+3:24 Luis Suarez takes a shot. Save by Wojciech Szczesny.
90:00+1:32 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Thomas Vermaelen by Leiva Lucas. Wojciech Szczesny takes the direct free kick.
90:00+0:59 Inswinging corner taken from the left by-line by Luis Suarez.
90:00+0:21 Corner taken by Luis Suarez from the left by-line to the near post, clearance made by Olivier Giroud.
90:00+0:06Booking The referee shows Per Mertesacker a yellow card for unsporting behaviour.
89:53 Unfair challenge on Daniel Agger by Per Mertesacker results in a free kick. Steven Gerrard takes the free kick.
88:47 Bacary Sagna gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Sanchez Jose Enrique. Leiva Lucas takes the direct free kick.
87:37 Shot from just outside the area by Luis Suarez misses to the right of the target.
86:35 Olivier Giroud takes a shot. Save by Jose Reina.
85:49 Inswinging corner taken right-footed by Santi Cazorla from the left by-line to the near post, Steven Gerrard makes a clearance.
85:42 Luis Suarez is ruled offside. Bacary Sagna takes the free kick.
85:30 Jose Reina takes the free kick.
84:45Booking Olivier Giroud goes into the book for unsporting behaviour.
83:14 Olivier Giroud takes a shot. Save by Jose Reina. Inswinging corner taken by Santi Cazorla from the left by-line, Close range header by Olivier Giroud goes over the bar.
82:22 Inswinging corner taken right-footed by Steven Gerrard, clearance by Thomas Vermaelen.
81:15 Santi Cazorla produces a left-footed shot from deep inside the penalty box which goes wide of the right-hand upright.
80:22 Corner taken by Stewart Downing from the right by-line, Thomas Vermaelen makes a clearance.
76:58 Foul by Andre Wisdom on Jack Wilshere, free kick awarded. The ball is delivered by Santi Cazorla, Per Mertesacker has a headed effort from close range and clears the bar.
75:29 Aaron Ramsey challenges Jordan Henderson unfairly and gives away a free kick. Direct free kick taken by Jamie Carragher.
75:29 Unfair challenge on Jordan Henderson by Aaron Ramsey results in a free kick. Jamie Carragher restarts play with the free kick.
72:53 Direct free kick taken by Per Mertesacker.
72:53Booking Steven Gerrard receives a caution for unsporting behaviour.
72:44 Foul by Steven Gerrard on Per Mertesacker, free kick awarded.
71:30 Foul by Leiva Lucas on Jack Wilshere, free kick awarded. Jack Wilshere restarts play with the free kick.
69:58Substitution Liverpool makes a substitution, with Sanchez Jose Enrique coming on for Daniel Sturridge.
69:58 Theo Walcott has an effort at goal from just outside the penalty box which goes wide of the left-hand post.
67:57 Effort on goal by Lukas Podolski from outside the area goes harmlessly over the bar.
67:23 Free kick awarded for a foul by Luis Suarez on Bacary Sagna. Bacary Sagna takes the direct free kick.
66:22 Olivier Giroud provided the assist for the goal.
66:22Goal scored Goal - Theo Walcott - Arsenal 2 - 2 LiverpoolTheo Walcott finds the back of the net with a goal from inside the penalty area to the bottom left corner of the goal. Arsenal 2-2 Liverpool.
63:59 The assist for the goal came from Jack Wilshere.
63:59Goal scored Goal - Olivier Giroud - Arsenal 1 - 2 LiverpoolOlivier Giroud scores a headed goal from close in. Arsenal 1-2 Liverpool.
63:26 Free kick awarded for a foul by Glen Johnson on Theo Walcott. Jack Wilshere delivers the ball,
61:52 Lukas Podolski produces a left-footed shot from just outside the penalty box that misses to the left of the target.
60:35 Aaron Ramsey takes a shot from just outside the penalty area which clears the crossbar.
59:22 Daniel Sturridge provided the assist for the goal.
59:22Goal scored Goal - Jordan Henderson - Arsenal 0 - 2 LiverpoolA goal is scored by Jordan Henderson from deep inside the penalty area low into the middle of the goal. Arsenal 0-2 Liverpool.
55:08 Foul by Leiva Lucas on Jack Wilshere, free kick awarded. Direct effort from the free kick comes in from Lukas Podolski, blocked by Steven Gerrard. Lukas Podolski takes a shot. Jamie Carragher gets a block in.
53:31 Theo Walcott has a header from close range and clears the crossbar.
50:42 Jordan Henderson gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Clarindo Andre Santos. Free kick taken by Clarindo Andre Santos.
48:32 Effort from inside the six-yard box by Daniel Sturridge goes wide right of the goal.
45:01 The referee starts the second half.
45:00+3:06Half time The half-time whistle blows.
43:10 Shot on goal by Jordan Henderson from just inside the area goes over the target.
42:48 Santi Cazorla takes a shot. Blocked by Steven Gerrard.
39:48 Olivier Giroud takes a shot. Save by Jose Reina.
38:40 Free kick awarded for a foul by Thomas Vermaelen on Daniel Sturridge. Steven Gerrard takes the free kick.
35:40 Free kick crossed right-footed by Steven Gerrard from left channel. The referee blows for offside against Daniel Agger. Wojciech Szczesny restarts play with the free kick.
35:40Substitution SubstitutionClarindo Andre Santos replaces Kieran Gibbs.
35:40 Aaron Ramsey gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Daniel Agger.
33:57 Santi Cazorla takes a inswinging corner from the left by-line to the near post, clearance by Jordan Henderson.
32:26 Stewart Downing is flagged offside by the assistant referee. Wojciech Szczesny takes the indirect free kick.
28:27 Shot by Luis Suarez from deep inside the penalty area misses to the left of the goal.
26:16 Inswinging corner taken right-footed by Steven Gerrard from the left by-line, Daniel Agger takes a shot. Lukas Podolski manages to make a clearance.
27:10 Foul by Lukas Podolski on Andre Wisdom, free kick awarded. Direct free kick taken by Leiva Lucas.
26:16 Inswinging corner taken right-footed by Steven Gerrard from the left by-line, Daniel Agger takes a shot. Clearance made by Bacary Sagna.
24:58 Glen Johnson takes the direct free kick.
24:58Booking Santi Cazorla is cautioned.
24:48 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Luis Suarez by Santi Cazorla.
23:09 Corner taken right-footed by Theo Walcott from the left by-line, Jamie Carragher manages to make a clearance.
20:30 Unfair challenge on Jack Wilshere by Steven Gerrard results in a free kick. Free kick taken by Aaron Ramsey.
17:32 Thomas Vermaelen takes a shot. Jamie Carragher gets a block in. Theo Walcott takes a shot. Save by Jose Reina. Corner taken by Jack Wilshere from the right by-line to the near post, Jordan Henderson manages to make a clearance.
17:10 Inswinging corner taken from the left by-line by Theo Walcott, clearance made by Jamie Carragher.
16:55 Olivier Giroud takes a shot. Blocked by Leiva Lucas.
16:24 Corner taken left-footed by Jack Wilshere from the right by-line to the near post, Daniel Agger makes a clearance.
11:30 Olivier Giroud produces a right-footed shot from deep inside the penalty box which goes wide of the right-hand upright.
10:23 Close range shot by Daniel Sturridge misses to the left of the goal.
9:21 Olivier Giroud fouled by Leiva Lucas, the ref awards a free kick. Santi Cazorla restarts play with the free kick.
4:34 The assist for the goal came from Jordan Henderson. Theo Walcott takes a shot. Save by Jose Reina. Inswinging corner taken by Jack Wilshere from the right by-line played to the near post, Glen Johnson makes a clearance.
4:34Goal scored Goal - Luis Suarez - Arsenal 0 - 1 LiverpoolLuis Suarez finds the back of the net with a goal from inside the box low into the middle of the goal. Arsenal 0-1 Liverpool.
4:35 Daniel Sturridge takes a shot. Save made by Wojciech Szczesny.
6:16 Free kick awarded for a foul by Santi Cazorla on Stewart Downing. Steven Gerrard takes the direct free kick.
5:02 Assist on the goal came from Jordan Henderson. Theo Walcott takes a shot. Save by Jose Reina. Inswinging corner taken right-footed by Jack Wilshere from the right by-line to the near post, Glen Johnson makes a clearance.
5:02Goal scored Goal - Luis Suarez - Arsenal 0 - 1 LiverpoolA goal is scored by Luis Suarez from inside the penalty area low into the middle of the goal. Arsenal 0-1 Liverpool.
4:35 Daniel Sturridge takes a shot. Wojciech Szczesny makes a save.
2:48 Corner taken by Steven Gerrard from the left by-line played to the near post, Olivier Giroud manages to make a clearance.
0:32 Jack Wilshere fouled by Steven Gerrard, the ref awards a free kick. Direct free kick taken by Aaron Ramsey.
0:00 The match begins.

Compiled by Graeme Riley