

Date: 1 March 2014

Opposition: Southampton

Competition: League

Mail	Sunday Times	Sun Telegraph	Telegraph
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THE



TIMES

Rodgers has the fans and players singing his tune

Southampton 0

Liverpool

Suarez 16, Sterling 58, Gerrard 90+5 (pen)

Referee LPROBERT Attendance 31,659

They can't, can they? As the away supporters at St Mary's serenaded their team with chants of "We're going to win the league", Liverpool's players departed and stumbled into the heart of a title race.

In front of the television cameras, Brendan Rodgers may smile and simply roll off cliché after cliché of his side taking their season one game at a time, but here, after another victory, there was something different about him.

Rodgers may not possess the experience of Manuel Pellegrini nor Jose Mourinho, his mentor, but he has an air of confidence about him that is infectious.

It has certainly rubbed off on his players, who, having taken their Barclays Premier League goal tally to 73 and moved to within four points of Chelsea after extending their unbeaten run to nine league games, gave another illustration of their ruthlessness.

A glance at Liverpool's fixture list, which begins with the small matter of a day out at Old Trafford on March 16, also reveals that both Manchester City and Chelsea will be forced to run the Anfield gauntlet before the end of the season.

Chelsea's European commitments and City's cup exploits may yet take their toll, but the added threat of Liverpool, led by the prolific Luis Suarez and his partner in crime, Daniel Sturridge, will give both Pellegrini and Mourinho plenty to worry about.

At Southampton, where Liverpool have so badly struggled in the past, Suarez required only 16 minutes to end his five-game goal drought, opening up his body before curling a sumptuous effort into the far corner after latching on to Sturridge's deflected pass.

That goal, Suarez's 24th of the season, should have brought about a period of Liverpool dominance, but instead Southampton shone brightest amid the darkening skies.

In Adam Lallana, Southampton boast a player who, in front of Roy Hodgson, illustrated why so many are excited by this supremely talented playmaker. The England manager must have felt as if he had turned up at an all-you-can-eat buffet with eight England squad members on show as Lallana gave more than the odd glimpse to suggest that he will be in Brazil this summer.

England do not possess another player in the Lallana mould -- his movement and ability to pass his man with relative ease remains a joy, albeit not to the defenders he terrorises.

Having already been denied a penalty after going down under a challenge from Jon Flanagan, Lallana went within a whisker of dragging his side level just after the half-hour mark.

Jay Rodriguez produced a fine cross from the right and when Rickie Lambert headed the ball down, Lallana flicked an effort towards goal that hit a post and rolled away, with Simon Mignolet a mere spectator in goal.

While Liverpool's attack may have been dubbed the "SAS", the defence has been more "SOS" in recent weeks and once again there were heart-in-mouth moments.

Without a clean sheet in their previous five games, they were indebted to Mignolet, who preserved his side's lead with an outstanding save to deny Rodriguez a deserved equaliser before the interval. It appeared that Rodriguez would simply roll the ball home at the far post after connecting with Luke Shaw's cross but Mignolet managed to stick out a hand, even with his body going in the wrong direction, and somehow keep it within his grasp.

The only team to win in the Premier League at Anfield this season, Southampton had hoped to pull off an unlikely double, but for all the aesthetics that come with this team, they lacked the kind of ruthlessness that Liverpool possess in abundance.

Raheem Sterling, a substitute, netted Liverpool's second with his first touch by firing home Suarez's pull-back as the visiting team stepped up their game.

Jordan Henderson and Steven Gerrard then both went close as Southampton began to wilt against the pace of Sterling and Sturridge, not to mention the guile and trickery of Suarez.

Gerrard's stoppage-time penalty, after Jose Fonte had brought down Suarez, added a gloss to the scoreline that was harsh on a Southampton side who for so long had been a real threat.

Not that it mattered to Liverpool. "We're going to win the league, we're going to win the league," the visiting fans sang.

The question is, are you going to believe them?

@Masters_JamesD

RATINGS Southampton (4-2-3-1): A Boruc 6 C Chambers 7, J Fonte 6, D Lovren 6, L Shaw 7 M Schneiderlin 7, J Cork 6 (sub: V Wanyama, 77min) S Davis 6 (sub: G Ramirez, 46 6), R Lambert 6 (sub: S Gallagher, 76), A Lallana 8 J Rodriguez 6.

Substitutes not used: P Gazzaniga, N Clyne, M Yoshida, J Ward-Prowse. Booked: Wanyama. Liverpool (4-1-2-1-2): S Mignolet 8 J Flanagan 7, M Skrtel 7, D Agger 7, G Johnson 7 S Gerrard 8 J Henderson 8, J Allen 7 P Coutinho 6 (sub: R Sterling, 57 8) D Sturridge 8 (sub: I Aspas, 85), L Suarez 9. Substitutes not used: B Jones, K Toure, V Moses, A Cissokho, J Teixeira. Booked: Gerrard, Henderson.

the

guardian

Rodgers lifts burden of history to give Liverpool extra push for title

The old songs are being aired again and Brendan Rodgers is delighted that his players are humming along. Towards the end of another high-scoring victory for their team, the away fans launched into a chorus of "we're going to win the league".

It has been 24 years since Liverpool were champions of England and at times since then the club's players have seemed daunted by the demands to return to the top. But Rodgers says he has changed that. "That's what we can now do, deal with expectancy," says Rodgers. "When I came in here there was a huge expectancy but the players couldn't cope with it. But now we enjoy it, we relish it."

The Northern Irishman believes the method he has applied since arriving at Anfield in May 2012 has liberated the players by fostering a conviction that they can keep excelling even when the stakes soar. "We've created a culture which is about learning and improving," he said. "I try to keep the pressure off the players in terms of focusing on performance. Because winning is a process. You don't just turn up and win. So we take the focus from the players, we ask them to concentrate on individual performance. It's my job to take that pressure off them so that they can go and perform. Go play with energy, play with commitment, play with quality and they have done that."

Liverpool are increasing their rhythm at the right time. They have won seven and drawn two of their last nine matches, making the sort of surge that ensures they can exploit any slowdown by their title rivals. Sir Alex Ferguson always used to stress that Manchester United got better in the second half of the season and Rodgers points out that his teams do too.

"That's the idea," Rodgers said. "I think over the years people have expected us to tail off. Actually now I think we're getting stronger. Last year I said how my teams work, we always get better in the second half of a season. Last year we did the same. This year we do the same. Our numbers are good so we've just got to keep it going."

The Liverpool captain, Steven Gerrard, who completed the victory at Southampton with a late penalty to add to goals by Luis Suarez and Raheem Sterling, is not about to talk down his team's chances of landing the trophy he has craved. "I think it's very nice that people are talking about us and we are in the title race," he said.

"There's no getting away from that, we're in it. Manchester City and Chelsea are still the favourites if you like because they've got that experience of going on to win it but I think they know, listening to Jose Mourinho and Manuel Pellegrini, that we are a big threat because we've got no Europe and we can be fresh every game."

In addition to preserving fitness, being spared European action gives Rodgers time to hone tactical tweaks like the one that helped beat Southampton, introducing a midfield diamond and restoring Suarez to a central role alongside Daniel Sturridge. "We've got a lot of time to prepare," says Gerrard. "We worked on this formation all week, we chose to play a diamond and I think it shocked Southampton." For all that, Southampton looked a match for Liverpool for long periods and it was easy to see why they are almost as strongly represented in the England squad to take on Denmark on Wednesday. Rickie Lambert and Jay Rodriguez played well and Adam Lallana was as intrepid a schemer as ever. But perhaps the most impressive home player was their newest England squad member, the left-back Luke Shaw. The 18-year-old's performances all season have been so mature it is easy to forget how quickly he has ascended to this level.

"Stevie [Gerrard] just had a little word after the match just to congratulate me and say 'I will see you tomorrow'. For me, it is great for the England captain to say something like that to me," said Shaw, who knows what he has to do to impress Roy Hodgson. "I think Rickie will take me under his wing, as well as Adz and Jay. They all say 'keep doing what you're doing' and even Roy said that when I spoke to him on the phone. He said 'you're here on merit, keep doing what you are doing'."

Man of match Luis Suarez (Liverpool)

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TheMail

RODGERS SENSING A TITLE CHARGE
SOUTHAMPTON 0
LIVERPOOL 3

IN THE corridors at their Melwood training ground, in the Anfield stands, on the streets of Liverpool, the whispers about winning the title are starting to get louder. Luis Suarez's clinical finish fired them ahead, Raheem Sterling came from the bench to score with his first touch and Steven Gerrard powered in a penalty for the third.

Liverpool's attacking was sublime, but there was something else. In the second half, with the game sealed, a chant of 'We're going to win the league' from the travelling fans broke out. Rarely has that been sung in the past 20 years by those fans. When that was put to manager Brendan Rodgers afterwards, he said: 'That's what we can now do, deal with expectancy. When I came in here there was a huge expectancy but the players couldn't cope with it. Now we enjoy it, we relish it.'

Liverpool's 5-1 win against Arsenal last month has been one of the stand-out results of the season. But Rodgers said: 'In a way the win against Southampton was just as significant because everyone was looking at this game -- we were playing away, playing at 5.30, seeing Chelsea had won and Arsenal had lost, Everton had won -- thinking it's going to be a real banana skin.'

Captain Gerrard insisted: 'We are in the title race. Man City and Chelsea are still the favourites. But I think they both know that we are a big threat because we've got no Europe and we can be fresh for every game.' Southampton left back Luke Shaw had the daunting task of facing the in-form Suarez in front of England boss Roy Hodgson, who called him up last week.

The 18-year-old is hoping to learn from idol Ashley Cole while he is with the England team. Shaw said: 'I was a Chelsea supporter and I used to go to games. Ashley Cole was the best left back in the world and I learned a lot from watching him. I am sure he will help me.'

SUPER STAT: Luis Suarez now tops both the scorers and assists charts in the Barclays Premier League.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-2-3-1): Boruc 5; Chambers 6, Fonte 5, Lovren 5, Shaw 6; Cork 5 (Wanyama 77min), Schneiderlin 5.5; S Davis 5.5 (Ramirez 46, 5), Lallana 6, Rodriguez 6; Lambert 6 (Gallagher 76). Subs not used: Gazzaniga, Clyne, Yoshida, Ward-Prowse.

Booked: Wanyama. LIVERPOOL (4-1-2-1-2): Mignolet 7; Johnson 6, Agger 6, Skrtel 6.5, Flanagan 6; Gerrard 7; Allen 6.5, Henderson 6.5; Coutinho 6 (Sterling 57, 7); Sturridge 6.5 (Aspas 85), Suarez 8. Subs not used: Jones, Toure, Cissokho, Moses, Teixeira.

Booked: Henderson, Gerrard. Man of the match: Luis Suarez. Referee: Lee Probert 7.

The Daily Telegraph

Gerrard starts title talk
Southampton 0
Att: 31,659
Liverpool 3
Suarez 16, Sterling 58, Gerrard 90 pen
It was like a scratched old numberone record, located, dusted down and placed on the turntable in an effort to rouse a few timeless memories.
A song that once soundtracked Liverpool's conquests, barely heard in the last 24 years but unexpectedly raised to full volume in the away end of St Mary's Stadium. "And now you're gonna believe us," they sang. "We're gonna win the league."
This was the sound of Liverpool breaking ranks and embracing the possibilities. Responses to the title question have been more guarded than the crown jewels, but the elation of a significant victory against impressive Southampton, momentarily at least, freed inhibitions.
Brendan Rodgers has not wanted to indulge title talk. Captain Steven Gerrard is biting his lip so much when asked he needs a consignment of antiseptic after each interview.
They are bowing to the inevitable now.
"There's no getting away from that. We're in it," said Gerrard. "Man City and Chelsea are still favourites but they know that we are a big threat because we've got no Europe and we can be fresh every game.
"It suits us being underdogs and that we've got a lot of time to prepare all week." Rodgers said Liverpool proved they can go the distance. "I think over the years people have expected us to tail off. Actually now I think we're getting stronger," he said.
"We get better in the second half of a season. Last year we did the same. We have the belief that when we bring our game into any match, we're a real threat.
"When I came in here there was a huge expectancy but the players couldn't cope with it. But now we enjoy it, we relish it."
You can understand why Rodgers and Gerrard have been so circumspect previously. The last time Liverpool were here they got over𠄾xcited, nosedived towards the finishing line prematurely, fell on their backside and took a few years to get back up.
Gerard Houllier declared his side 10 games from greatness in 2002, but Arsenal had other ideas. Houllier never recovered from the bold but doomed prophecy. Rafa Benitez embraced title𠄼hallenger status when taking on Sir Alex Ferguson in 2009, but could never nudge ahead in final stages. He was gone a year later.
Rodgers has only been on Merseyside 18 months and his knowledge of the club's past ; not only of the victories but, just as importantly, those failures ; is worthy of a PhD.
Belief is growing because this was a prototype performance of potential champions. They rode their luck at a tough venue before asserting authority and emerging comfortable winners.
Liverpool started vibrantly, Luis Suarez's one;touch finish gave them a deserved early lead, but then, with Philippe Coutinho gifting possession to the opponents too often, the first half became an exercise in survival.
Southampton are one of the pretti;est sides in the division and Luke Shaw and Adam Lallana must have impressed Roy Hodgson, the England manager, as much as the athleticism of Jordan Henderson will have done.
It is to Saints' credit that ; tactically and technically ; this game worried Rodgers as much as a trip to the Etihad Stadium or Stamford Bridge.
In fact, anyone decrying the longterm future of English football should gorge on the reruns as it was brimful of skill and tactical cunning executed by home;grown players. The only caveat being that the best player on the pitch happened to be the Uruguayan who will line up against England in Brazil.
Raheem Sterling, a substitute here, was only on two minutes before he ended the contest, tapping in after more sorcery from Suarez. By the time Suarez provoked Jose Fonte to trip him to enable Gerrard to score a third from the penalty spot,Liverpool could have been five up.
The title chants began. We have digested plenty of reasons why Liverpool can't win it: it is too soon; the squad players contribute nothing; the defence can't be trusted; Manchester City and Chelsea are better; Liverpool signed Victor Moses. With 10 games left, it is the reasons for why they can do it that are coming to the fore. They have outscored the rest of the Premier League; City and Chelsea have flaws of their own; no distractions; there is a fella called Suarez.
The last time that Liverpool fans sang about winning the league was five years ago when a 4;1 win at Old Trafford made it seem United would be caught.
Liverpool's next game is against the soon;to;be;deposed champions. If you hear a replay of that particular chant there, it won't just be Liverpool fans who start to believe it.

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JEWEL IN THE CROWN; Suarez hailed as 'best in world' as fans dare to dream of first title in 24 years

SOUTHAMPTON 0

LIVERPOOL 3

Suarez 16, Sterling 59, Gerrard 90 pen

THEY have not had much chance to sing it in the past 20 years.

But the travelling Liverpool fans enjoyed bellowing out every word: "We're going to win the league - and now you're gonna believe us."

It summed up the growing belief from within the Liverpool camp, no matter how much they try to play it down, that they are serious title contenders.

They are daring to dream at last. Liverpool last won the title in 1990, last made a serious challenge in 2009 and yet boss Brendan Rodgers has transformed the Premier League's great entertainers into potential champions.

So much of that has to be down to Luis Suarez, whose performance was so good at St Mary's it had Steven Gerrard claiming he is now pushing Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi as the best in the world.

But if ever one player deserved a title winner's medal to cap off his glorious career it has to be Liverpool captain Gerrard, who believes even their title rivals Chelsea and Manchester City see them as a "big threat".

Victories at places such as Southampton are where title credentials are proved. Liverpool and Chelsea have won at St Mary's. Arsenal and City were held to a draw.

It is a tough place and yet Liverpool have the momentum and there just seems to be no stopping Rodgers' red machine.

Gerrard believes Liverpool are benefiting from being underdogs - and also not having the distraction of European football. Gerrard said: "I think it's very nice people are talking about us and we're in the title race. There's no getting away from that, we're in it.

"But it's important we stay calm, keep taking it game by game and try to win as many games as we can.

"Man City and Chelsea are still the favourites if you like because they have that experience of going to win it.

"But I think both know, listening to Jose Mourinho and Manuel Pellegrini, that we're a big threat because we've got no Europe and we can be fresh every game.

"Yes, it does suit us at the moment being underdogs. What suits us as well is we've a lot of time to prepare.

"We've worked on this formation all week. We chose to play a diamond and I think it shocked Southampton."

Suarez was man of the match again and played a part in every goal. He scored the first with a brilliant finish, laid on the second for substitute Raheem Sterling to score with his first touch and won the injury-time penalty which Gerrard converted.

Gerrard rates Suarez as already the best player in the Premier League - and says he is now catching the very best in the world.

Gerrard added: "I've run out of words to describe him. We're blessed in this country to have some really top forwards, top, top attacking players.

"But for me, without being biased, he's the best. I've said it many times, I look at Messi and Ronaldo and, yeah, they're world class players.

"But outside of that, you have Ibrahimovic and Luis Suarez, who are pushing those two really close.

"Performances like this, where he hasn't scored for four or five games, but he's getting assists, causing so much problems. He's relentless. He's a winner, he's a killer and we're lucky to have him."

Liverpool started brilliantly at St Mary's and Suarez's 16th-minute opener looked like it would be the start of a convincing win. But Saints then proceeded to boss the game, Adam Lallana hit a post, Luke Shaw was brilliant down the left and Simon Mignolet denied Jay Rodriguez with a fine save.

Liverpool were lucky to be ahead at the break but they hit the heights in the second half, playing super counterattacking stuff. On this sort of form and looking tighter at the back, Liverpool are a match for anyone.

They have leapfrogged Arsenal, have points in the bag on Manchester City and Chelsea will not fancy going to Anfield on April 27 with Liverpool in this form. It is a great tribute to the adventurous and attacking philosophy employed by Rodgers.

"Yes and it's nice," he said. "That's what we can now do, deal with expectancy. When I came in here there was a huge expectancy but the players couldn't cope with it.

"But now we enjoy it, we relish it. They are the best supporters in the world so it's great for them to dream. It's my job to retain the focus and the calmness.

"This was a significant win.

You think of the 5-1 win we had against Arsenal and in a way this was just as significant because everyone, I think, was looking at this game.

"We were playing away from home, playing at 5.30, seeing Chelsea had won and Arsenal had lost, Everton have won - it's going to be a real banana skin down here.

"But actually we were brilliant."

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LIVERPOOL

ECHO

Travelling Kop dare to dream after clinical win

Pity the stewards who were trying to clear the away end at St Mary's on Saturday evening. The travelling Kop may have been a long way from home but they were in no rush to go anywhere. They remained behind long after the final whistle to deliver their verdict on where they believe this exhilarating season of such promise is heading. Liverpool's manager and his players maybe determined to keep a lid on expectations but this was the night when the club's supporters broke rank. Having whispered it quietly in recent weeks, the jubilant 3,100-strong army decided to shout it from the rooftops on the South Coast.

It had been five long years since Kopites had bounced to that tune. Not since Yossi Benayoun plundered a last-gasp winner against Fulham at Craven Cottage in April 2009 have fans sung about clinching the trophy they crave more than any other. That victory sent Rafa Benitez's Liverpool two points clear at the summit but with Manchester United boasting two games in hand that advantage was swiftly wiped out and those dreams turned to dust.

The ride since then has been decidedly bumpy. Benitez's reign quickly unravelled as the divisive ownership of Tom Hicks and George Gillett took its toll. The High Court battle and subsequent takeover by John W Henry and Tom Werner pulled the club back from the brink of administration but Roy Hodgson continued to accelerate the Reds' decline until he was ditched.

The second coming of Kenny Dalglish sparked a revival of sorts with a cherished first trophy for six years but in the league Liverpool remained also-rans. Fenway Sports Group took a leap of faith when they appointed Brendan Rodgers 21 months ago. A young, talented and ambitious coach but one relatively unproven at the top level was tasked with restoring the Reds to their former glory. The rate of progress since the early teething troubles of last term has been remarkable. Doubters have been won over with an exciting brand of attacking football which has catapulted Liverpool back into contention for the biggest of prizes. The Rodgers' revolution is ahead of schedule and the fans' appreciation for the transformation he has overseen was clear as they repeatedly chanted his name at St Mary's. The show of respect was mutual as the manager saluted them for their inspirational vocal backing.

"It's good for the supporters to dream," said Rodgers when quizzed about the deafening chants about ending that 24-year wait for a 19th title.

There will be no bold predictions from the Northern Irishman as he looks to shield his side from pressure. No deviating from the age old mantra of merely focusing on the next game. History shows it's a wise approach. It's 12 years since Gerard Houllier announced his Liverpool side were '10 games from greatness'.

Within weeks the Reds had been dumped out of the Champions League by Bayer Leverkusen and seen their title hopes dashed by defeat to Tottenham.

Once again 10 games stand between Liverpool and glory but this time they are doing their talking where it really matters. Since the turn of the year they have picked up 23 points out of a possible 27 and momentum is on their side.

They have cemented their grip on a Champions League spot and sent out a warning that their climb towards the summit will take some stopping.

Having ruthlessly cashed in on Arsenal's defeat at Stoke, Rodgers' side will spend the next fortnight sitting pretty in second place – looking down on the Gunners and Manchester City. You could list countless reasons why Liverpool won't win the title, from the greater strength in depth enjoyed by leaders Chelsea and Man City to concerns about the Reds' defensive vulnerability and their unfamiliarity in dealing with life at the top. However, crucially, they have no other distractions and belief is surging through a squad about to be buoyed by the imminent return of both Mamadou Sakho and Lucas Leiva.

Chelsea may have a four-point cushion and League Cup winners City boast two games in hand but both still have to visit Anfield where Liverpool have been so dominant. When you've got the magical talents of Luis Suarez in your ranks then the sky's the limit. The Uruguayan marked his 100th Premier League appearance for the Reds with yet another masterclass. Tormented centre-backs Dejan Lovren and Jose Fonte could at least console themselves in the knowledge they are in good company this season. Suarez put Liverpool on course for their first win at St Mary's since 2003 with a clinical finish after pouncing on a lucky ricochet off Fonte. His 62nd league goal for the club – the same tally Robbie Fowler had after a century of league games – ended Suarez's five-game drought stretching back to the Merseyside derby. It also strengthened his grip on the Golden Boot as he took his tally for the season to 24. Suarez's work-rate and movement were outstanding throughout and just before the hour mark he latched on to Steven Gerrard's pass and created the second for substitute Raheem Sterling.

In between those goals Liverpool spent large spells under the cosh as Southampton pressed for an equaliser.

However, a backline much criticised after the glaring errors in the thriller against Swansea a week earlier stood firm. A first away clean sheet in the league since December was their reward. Rodgers got the response he wanted from Daniel Agger as the vice-captain produced his best display of the campaign.

It was also a memorable afternoon for Simon Mignolet who made a stunning reflex save to thwart Jay Rodriguez. The keeper also commanded his penalty area much better than he has in recent weeks.

The Reds had got lucky when Adam Lallana struck the post but there were few other scares. Gerrard provided the control in front of the back four and Rodgers' tactics worked a treat. The midfield diamond largely negated the Saints' threat and the manager showed his pragmatic side as Liverpool regularly sent it long in order to get around the hosts' relentless pressing and exploit the space they had left behind. The second half turned into a procession and the only surprise was that the Reds had to wait until stoppage time for a third goal. A dazed Fonte upended Suarez and Gerrard made no mistake from the spot. As they headed for the dressing room, a beaming Rodgers congratulated each of his players in turn before applauding the away end.

"Now you're gonna believe us," echoed around St Mary's. The party was in full swing.

Next stop Old Trafford.

SOUTHERN

Daily Echo

Saints beaten by rampant Liverpool

Saints succumbed to their first home defeat to Liverpool in 11 years as they were beaten 3-0 by the title chasers at St Mary's. In a game of multiple chances Luis Suarez, Raheem Sterling and an injury time penalty from Steven Gerrard inflicted defeat uponMauricio Pochettino's men. A win earlier in the day for Newcastle meant Saints slipped four points off of eighth place in the table.

For Liverpool a tilt at the crown had never been part of Brendan Rodgers' plan this season, but their recent form has given them a real chance of a first championship since 1990. The latest victory at Saints - the only side to have won at Anfield this season - earned the Reds a win which sees them climb above Manchester City and Arsenal. It was the ideal start to a run of three successive away matches, with Suarez marking his 100th league appearance for the Reds by ending his an unusual barren run after just 16 minutes.

Saints did not wilt, though, with Adam Lallana hitting the post after aRickie Lambert flick-on, before Luke Shaw, impressing in front of watching England manager Roy Hodgson, went on a marauding run which ended with Jay Rodriguez forcing Simon Mignolet into a fine save.

Mauricio Pochettino's side were made to pay for those missed opportunities after the break, as Sterling, one of the nine players on display called up for England duty this week, netted seconds after coming off the bench.

Suarez provided the assist for that goal and was involved in Liverpool's third, earning the stoppage-time penalty lashed home by Steven Gerrard.

The Uruguay international looked like he would score just six minutes into the match after a wonderful squared ball by Daniel Sturridge, only for a timely interception by Jose Fonte. One-time Southampton target Philippe Coutinho sent a hopeful volley into the side-netting as Liverpool's bright start continued, before Rodriguez bundled an effort wide. The hosts called for a penalty after a Jon Flanagan shoulder-barge on Lallana. Those appeals fell on deaf ears and Liverpool capitalised, opening the scoring after 16 minutes.

Having cut out Sturridge's attempt to link up with Suarez, the ball took a fortuitous touch off Fonte into the latter's path, with him continuing to wonderfully steer past Artur Boruc. It was a fine strike and one which appeared to kick-start Saints as Lambert fired over and Glen Johnson cut out a threatening Calum Chambers cross, before Lallana hit the base of the post.

Neat team play ended with Chambers crossing from the right to Lambert, whose deft touch under pressure put through Lallana, only for the playmaker's close-range prod to come back off the far post. The Saints captain again had an attempt beforeMorgan Schneiderlin turned over as Saints continued in the ascendancy. A venomous low Suarez strike was all Liverpool had to show after the goal, which would have been cancelled out before half-time but for the fine reactions of Mignolet. Showing why he was called-up by England this week, Shaw went on a fine run forward and sent in a low cross that, having been stepped over by Lambert, allowed Rodriguez to strike on goal, with the Belgian goalkeeper impressively clawing the ball away. Keen to turn their dominance into a goal, Gaston Ramirez replacedSteven Davis for a second half that saw Schneiderlin have the hosts' first attempt just 70 seconds in.

Rodriguez saw a shot blocked by Martin Skrtel and Mignolet held a Lallana effort, but Liverpool's defence was holding firm.

The same could not be said for the home side's, with Suarez the architect as the Reds doubled their advantage in the 58th minute.

Turning his man when latching onto a ball through, the Uruguay international selflessly cut back for Sterling to slot home seconds after coming off the bench. The strike put Liverpool clear and saw them play with increased confidence for the remainder of the match. Suarez slipped through Sturridge with 69 minutes on the clock, only for him to put wide as he looked to net for a ninth successive match. Jordan Henderson shot wide and Gerrard saw an effort tipped wide by Boruc, who had to be alert to stop Suarez's audacious attempt direct from the resulting corner sneaking home. The 27-year-old had another attempt soon after as Liverpool continued to attack, before earning a stoppage-time penalty.

Suarez was caught by a Fonte's flailing leg, with Gerrard stepping up to lash home from the spot to keep the pressure on leaders Chelsea.

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Liverpool soar into title reckoning

Liverpool's manager, Brendan Rodgers, and captain, Steven Gerrard, may play down their team's chances of winning the Premier League title, but they put themselves into the reckoning yesterday evening as they moved into second place, winning on a ground where the two teams they climbed above, Arsenal and Manchester City, settled for draws.

Luis Suarez, the man of the match, celebrated his 100th Premier League appearance for Liverpool by scoring for the first time since the 4-0 victory over Everton on 28 January, a drought of five matches in all competitions. Raheem Sterling then netted with his first touch after taking the field as a second-half substitute to ensure Liverpool's ninth League match without defeat, a fourth successive victory and a first win at St Mary's since 2003. Gerrard added a late penalty to make the win appear more comfortable than seemed possible when Southampton were in the ascendancy either side of half-time.

But it was not enough to persuade Rodgers to discuss a title win. "I'm not focusing on that, I'm focusing on the next game," he said. "We've had an excellent performance, a significant performance against a very good side. We had a clean sheet, scored three and could have had five or six.

"It's good for the supporters to dream, and they have seen the evolution of this team. Consistently over a year we have been playing at a really good level. But we stay calm, don't get carried away and look at the next game."

Saints beat Liverpool 1-0 at Anfield in September and 3-1 at St Mary's in March - arguably the Reds' most disappointing performance of last season - but yesterday the visitors rode out several spells of pressure to inflict back-to-back League defeats on Southampton and record a welcome clean sheet after recent defensive d[c]bcentcsles. "Credit goes to the manager," Gerrard said. "We got it wrong here last season and when they beat us at Anfield, but today he got the tactics spot on. We played longer and left two up top, and if teams want to play two against two against Suarez and [Daniel] Sturridge, all the best.

"I am sure many people are looking out for us because we have got no Europe, we're fresh going into every game. All we asked for at the beginning of the season was, 'Can we be in it with 10 games to go?' and we are. I think Chelsea and Man City are still favourites. We just need to keep going and trying to win every game, and with players like Suarez in the team we can beat anyone."

The subplot was the presence of nine members of the watching England head coach Roy Hodgson's squad for Wednesday's friendly against Denmark at Wembley - four from Saints, including the newly called-up Luke Shaw, and five from Liverpool. But the Merseysiders will have the bragging rights when the players meet again next week.

Liverpool survived a penalty claim against Jon Flanagan for a challenge on Adam Lallana before taking the lead after 16 minutes when an attempted interception ricocheted off Jose Fonte to Suarez, who slipped the ball low past the left hand of Saints' goalkeeper, Artur Boruc.

Southampton, though, should have been level just past the half-hour as their three England forwards combined. Jay Rodriguez crossed from the right and Rickie Lambert chested the ball down into the path of Lallana, but his shot rolled back off the post with Simon Mignolet beaten. But Mignolet was at his best when he clutched a first-time shot by Rodriguez after Lambert had cleverly dummied a cross from the left.

"We created many chances and deserved a lot more, but we have to be more clinical," Mauricio Pochettino, Saints' manager, said.

Rodgers's answer was to bring off the increasingly ineffective Philippe Coutinho for Sterling, and it paid off instantly. Suarez took Gerrard's pass from deep and turned into space on the right. His low cross found Sterling, who stabbed the ball low past Boruc with his first touch, 80 seconds after taking the field.

Suarez, twice, and Jordan Henderson missed chances to put the result beyond doubt, but Gerrard made it 3-0 in injury time after Fonte had tripped Suarez.

Southampton (4-3-3): Boruc; Clyne, Fonte, Lovren, Shaw; S Davis (Ramirez, h-t), Cork (Wanyama, 76), Schneiderlin; Lallana, Lambert (Gallagher, 76), Rodriguez.

Liverpool (4-1-3-2): Mignolet; Flanagan, Skrtel, Agger, Johnson; Gerrard; Henderson, Coutinho (Sterling, 57), Allen; Sturridge (Aspas, 86), Suarez.

Referee: Lee Probert.

Man of the match: Suarez (Liverpool)

Match rating: 7/10

The Sunday Telegraph

Belief builds as Liverpool sweep Saints aside

Southampton 0

Liverpool 3 Suarez 16, Sterling 58, Gerrard pen

Att: 31,659

After a win against Southampton that at times bordered on the contemptuous, if he is not careful, Brendan Rodgers is soon going to have to admit that his Liverpool team are in with a chance of taking the title. As Arsenal slipped on a Potteries banana skin, Rodgers' team solidified their position in second place, maintaining their bold pursuit of the reluctant front-runners Chelsea.

"So now you're gonna believe us, we're gonna win the league," chanted the visiting fans, the first time in a long while theLiverpool followers have tempted fate in that manner. But then, to come to St Mary's and win against a team as accomplished as Southampton is a significant calling card, one beyond both Arsenal and Manchester City this season. With a 3-0 win to match the one Chelsea recorded here on New Year's Day, Liverpool suggested they are arriving in peak form at precisely the right moment.

It was an opportunity for the four members of the Southampton starting XI called up by Roy Hodgson for this week's outing at Wembley to acquaint themselves with Liverpool's more established England internationals. Not that this was the sort of occasion for lengthy introductions. From the kick-off, the two best passing teams in the division breathlessly traded attacks.

Liverpool, quick, precise, seemingly determined to make the most of Arsenal's slip-up at Stoke and seal second place in the Premier League, were the first to demonstrate their capability. With Luis Suarez and Daniel Sturridge continually swapping positions, with Philippe Coutinho's trickery and intelligent movement, with Joe Allen making several charging runs from the back, Southampton's back line were immediately challenged.

Indeed, on 15 minutes Liverpool took the lead after panic appeared to grip the home defence. Suarez advanced with purpose into the area and passed with purpose to Sturridge. The England man could not get the ball out from under his feet to return the pass. But as Jack Cork came in to dispossess him the ball ricocheted off Jose Fonte straight back to Suarez, the perfect, albeit unintended, one-two. Suddenly clear and unimpeded, the Uruguayan calmly slotted the ball away for his first goal in six games.

Urged on by an excited crowd, Southampton immediately sought a riposte. A lovely move involving Adam Lallana and Steven Davis invited Calum Chambers to cross, but Glenn Johnson - ritually booed by the home fans for his Portsmouth connections - slid in to snaffle the danger. On the half hour the home side should have equalised. Rickie Lambert demonstrated that he has the nous, if not the pace, to justify his England callup, beautifully cushioned the ball off his chest into Lallana's path. No further out than Suarez had been when he scored, the Southampton skipper hit the ball left-footed past Simon Mignolet, but on to the post. A minute later, the endlessly adventurous Luke Shaw pounded forward on to Morgan Schneiderlein's pass, but his cross was a touch behind Lallana, who swivelled to scoop it wide. Then Jay Rodriguez attempted an extravagant chip from outside the box. While it flew over Mignolet as intended, it also cleared the bar. As the half came to an end, a brilliant save by Mignolet kept Liverpool in the ascendancy. Shaw once again barrelled down the left, his cross was deliberately left by Lallana and made its way to Rodriguez. His stabbed shot looked certain to put his side back in the game, but Liverpool's keeper dived athletically to keep it out with his right hand.

At half-time, Mauricio Pochettino, the home manager, perhaps seeking more invention in midfield, replaced Steven Davis with Gaston Ramirez. But the substitution that had more telling effect was when Rodgers brought on Raheem Sterling for Coutinho in the 57th minute.

Nor more than 90 seconds later, Steven Gerrard strode forward and slotted a pass through to Suarez. With a beautiful feint, the forward opened up the Southampton defence. Suddenly finding himself in so much space he was in danger of contracting agoraphobia, Suarez squared the ball to Sterling, who had galloped through the middle to stab the ball past Artur Boruc. It was the winger's first touch and he celebrated his strike with aplomb.

As the noisy Liverpool supporters serenaded Rodgers for his tactical initiative, Southampton poured forward in search of some sort of return for their effort. Doing that, they were constantly in danger of being caught by a break by the paceyLiverpool front line. Suarez almost embarrassed Fonte in the 70th minute, then Boruc was obliged to save well from Gerrard, before the ever inventive Suarez almost scored direct from a corner, the Southampton keeper scooping away his craftily floated effort.

He then, as the game petered out in injury time, twisted Fonte inside out, before the Swiss took away his legs. Gerrard's faultless penalty merely made it ever harder for Rodgers to maintain his insistence he has not a hope.

Southampton (4-2-3-1) Boruc 6; Chambers 6, Lovren 5, Fonte 4, Shaw 6; Schneiderlin 6, Davis 5 (Ramirez 45); Rodriguez 4, Cork 5 (Wanyama 76), Lallana 6; Lambert 4 (Gallagher 76). Subs Gazzaniga, Clyne, Yoshida, Ward-Prowse. Booked Wanyama.

Liverpool (4-4-2) Mignolet 6; Flanagan 6, Agger 6, Skrtel 6, Johnson 7; Henderson 6, Gerrard 7; Allen 6, Coutinho 5 (Sterling 57), Suarez 8; Sturridge 5 (Aspas 85). Subs Jones, Toure, Moses, Cissokho, Teixeira. Booked Henderson, Gerrard.

Referee L Probert (South Gloucs).

Date: 1 March 2014
Opposition: Southampton
Competition: League

Mail	Sunday Times	Sun Telegraph	Telegraph
Echo	Observer	Times	Mirror
BBC	Sun Independent	Guardian	South Daily Echo



THE SUNDAY TIMES

Rampant Liverpool overtake Gunners
SOUTHAMPTON 0
LIVERPOOL
Suarez 16, Sterling 57
Gerrard 90+4 pen 3
APPROPRIATELY enough in this sodden winter, the red tide is continuing to rise. Goals by a different version of SAS -- Suarez and Sterling -- laid the base for Liverpool's seventh win in nine games, a run that has lifted them above Arsenal into second place in the Premier League and franked their title credentials.
The scoreline could have been worse for Southampton and yet was not entirely reflective of the balance of play. The difference, not for the first time this season, was in Liverpool's penetration in attack. Southampton had plenty of chances to get back into the game after Luis Suarez's opener, notably in a 20-minute spell just before half-time, but Rickie Lambert, Jay Rodriguez and Adam Lallana could not match Liverpool's firepower.
Lallana hit a post and Simon Mignolet pulled off an extraordinary save to deny Rodriguez and maintain Liverpool's slender lead into the break.
But Liverpool always stretched Southampton's defence on the break and Raheem Sterling effectively put the visitors beyond reach seconds after being brought on by Brendan Rodgers.
Not surprisingly, given that eight of his England squad were in the starting line-ups, Roy Hodgson was drawn to the south coast. It might have been nine had Rodgers not compromised his out-and-out attacking style just a little by bringing in Joe Allen for Sterling. The switch deprived the England manager of an early duel between Luke Shaw, his new recruit, and theLiverpool winger.
Liverpool might have opened the scoring inside the first five minutes but for Jose Fonte's timely interception of Sturridge's pass to Suarez. The reprieve was only temporary, though there was more than a touch of good fortune about the opening goal, scored by Suarez after the ball ricocheted to him off two Southampton players. The Liverpool striker's 24th League goal of the season, curled neatly round Artur Boruc, ended a barren run of five games.
Southampton, outmuscled at times this season but rarely outrun, seemed mildly shocked by the energy and speed of Liverpool's counter-attacks and it took them half an hour to fashion a decent chance of their own, Adam Lallana scuffing his shot against a post after Rickie Lambert's knockdown. Lallana shot just wide a few moments later as Southampton enjoyed their best spell. Rodriguez volleyed just over the bar and as both the teenaged full-backs, Shaw and Callum Chambers, began to find space down the flanks, Liverpool's central defence was stretched to the limit.
But for a brilliant save by Simon Mignolet from Rodriguez's point-blank drive, Southampton would have been deservedly level at the interval.
Neither manager was prepared to back down tactically, Pochettino introducing Gaston Ramirez for Steven Davis at half-time and Rodgers countering with Sterling for the anonymous Coutinho 10 minutes later. Within seconds of his arrival, Sterling had put Liverpool further ahead, tucking home Suarez's cross from close range with his first touch of the ball.
The goal was rather more than the visitors deserved, but Liverpool's ability to score from anywhere at any time might just sweep them to the title. They certainly gave Southampton a lesson in the art of taking chances.
Jordan Henderson, a likely Wembley starter this week, scooped a shot over the bar from 10 yards and Steven Gerrard's long-range shot flew narrowly wide before Liverpool added to their phenomenal goal tally with their 73rd of the season, Gerrard converting a penalty in stoppage time.
Star man: Luis Suarez (Liverpool) Yellow cards: Southampton: Wanyama Liverpool: Henderson, Gerrard Referee: L Probert Attendance: 31,659 Southampton: Boruc 6, Chambers 6, Lovren 7, Fonte 6, Shaw 6, Cork 6 (Wanyama 76min), Schneiderlin 5, Davis 6 (Ramirez h-t, 6), Lallana 7, Rodriguez 6, Lambert 6 (Gallagher 76min) Liverpool: Mignolet 7, Flanagan 6, Agger 7, Skrtel 6, Johnson 6, Allen 6, Gerrard 6, Henderson 7, Coutinho 5 (Sterling 57, 7), Sturridge 7 (Iago Aspas 85min), Suarez 8

TheObserver

Suarez the swashbuckler sends Liverpool second
For so long accused of wallowing in their glorious past, Liverpool are now looking to a triumphant future that edges ever nearer. Three points from a dicey assignment at Southampton means a first title in 24 years is a fantasy with an increasing chance of becoming reality. Only Chelsea are above Brendan Rodgers' swashbuckling side in the Premier League table now.
In the season straight after the abdication of Sir Alex Ferguson, Liverpool could return to the perch that was once their preserve.
The pressure was on Rodgers' men here. Arsenal's defeat at Stoke and Manchester City's engagement in the Capital One Cup final meant victory would propel them into second place, a challenge to which teams of less mettle would not have risen. Southampton had beaten Liverpool in their two previous meetings and posed them plenty of problems here but the visitors took the best blows that their hosts could throw and struck back with three powerful strikes. Another goal spree plus a rare clean sheet made Rodgers a happy man.
"This was an outstanding and really significant performance," said the Liverpool manager, who tempered talk of the title with the inevitable one-game-at-a-time mantra. His Southampton counterpart, Mauricio Pochettino, was less coy, concluding: "Liverpool are definitely a candidate for the title, they have the right players to mount a serious challenge." Southampton forced Liverpool to prove their credentials and that made for a gripping game.
From the outset both sides fizzed with endeavour and enterprise. Liverpool, who tweaked their formation to play with a midfield diamond and Daniel Sturridge and Luis Suarez as a front two, came within inches of taking the lead in the sixth minute. Sturridge raced down the right and attempted to lay the ball across to the unmarked Suarez but Jose Fonte stretched to poke the ball behind as the Uruguayan prepared to pounce.
Both sides began with four players named in the England squad to face Denmark on Wednesday, including the Southampton left-back Luke Shaw, who turns 19 the day before the World Cup final and played as if intent on showing the watching Roy Hodgson that he deserves to go to Brazil. With England's usual right-back, Glen Johnson, deployed on Liverpool's left, Shaw regularly galloped forward to torment Jon Flanagan, though it was Adam Lallana who went down in the box under a challenge from Flanagan in the 13th minute. The referee, Lee Probert, rejected the pleas for a penalty.
Two minutes later Liverpool's scoring machine clicked into gear. Suarez had not netted for five matches prior to this but, after initiating an attack, he benefited from ricochets off two Southampton defenders before firing low into the net from 16 yards to plunder his 24th goal of the campaign. That was one demonstration that Hodgson might not have appreciated given that he has to figure out a way of stopping the Uruguayan in June.
Southampton pushed Liverpool on to the back foot for most of the remainder of the first half and could have been level by half-time. Just past the half-hour Rickie Lambert knocked down a cross to Lallana, whose scuffed close-range shot rolled past Simon Mignolet but bounced out off the post. The hosts were foiled superbly by the Belgian goalkeeper just before the break, when, after a cross by Lallana and a dummy by Lambert, Jay Rodriguez let fly from eight yards, only for Mignolet to twist his body and turn the low shot away with one hand.
Southampton's forward momentum continued after the resumption. Steven Gerrard, in front of the Liverpool defence, was struggling to keep track of Lallana, who tested Mignolet again in the 49th minute. Rodgers introduced Raheem Sterling in place of Philippe Coutinho in the 58th minute but hardly imagined he would score with his first touch. Yet after nimble interplay on the right, Suarez delivered a low ball into the box and Sterling sidefooted into the net from 10 yards.
Liverpool finished in jubilant form. Sturridge and Suarez could have scored again before stoppage time, when Suarez darted into the box and duped Fonte, who brought him down to concede a penalty. Gerrard scored with style.
SOUTHAMPTON Boruc; Chambers, Lovren, Fonte, Shaw; Cork (Wanyama 77■) , Schneiderlin; Davis (Ramirez ht), Lallana, Rodriguez; Lambert (Gallagher 76) Subs not used Gazaniga, Clyne, Yoshida, Ward-Prowse
LIVERPOOL Mignolet; Flanagan, Agger, Skrtel, Johnson; Gerrard■; Allen, Henderson■; Coutinho (Sterling 57); Suarez, Sturridge (Aspas 85) Subs not used Jones, Toure, Moses, Cissokho, Teixeira
St Mary's 31,659

Date: 1 March 2014 Opposition: Southampton Competition: League	Mail	Sunday Times	Sun Telegraph	Telegraph		1 March 2014
	Echo	Observer	Times	Mirror		
	BBC	Sun Independent	Guardian	South Daily Echo		

BBC

Liverpool strengthened their title challenge as a clinical victory over Southampton lifted them into second in the Premier League table.

Striker Luis Suarez scored his first goal for six games with a low finish from just inside the penalty area.

Southampton's Adam Lallana was denied an equaliser by a post before Reds substitute Raheem Sterling made it 2-0.

The teenager netted with his first touch after Suarez's cross, and Steven Gerrard added the third with a penalty.

The spot-kick was awarded after the tireless Suarez, making his 100th Premier League appearance, was hauled down by Jose Fonte deep in stoppage time.

With Arsenal losing earlier at Stoke and Manchester City not playing, Liverpool are now table-topping Chelsea's closest rivals.

The Reds head into a two-week break four points behind Jose Mourinho's leaders with 10 games remaining.

But they leapfrog Arsenal because of a superior goal difference and, just as importantly, are nine points clear of fifth-placed Tottenham in the race for Champions League qualification.

Manager Brendan Rodgers will be just as pleased with a clean sheet after his side conceded five goals in their previous two games.

Liverpool remain unbeaten in the top flight in 2014, with seven wins in nine games.

They arrived at St Mary's Stadium having scored in their previous 17 league games, and required just 16 minutes to extend that run to 18.

Steven Gerrard has scored eight goals in 25 Premier League games this season

The goal came after a powerful run by Daniel Sturridge following a Liverpool throw-in, with Fonte diverting the ball into the path of Suarez, who finished clinically.

In a game that featured nine players called up for England duty against Denmark, Southampton spent the remainder of the first half testing the visitors' defence.

Lallana was denied by a post after the Reds had failed to deal with Jay Rodriguez's looping cross, while French midfielder Morgan Schneiderlin fired narrowly over with a shot on the turn.

Rodriguez was then left frustrated by Simon Mignolet's diving save before Sterling put the game beyond the hosts 80 seconds after replacing Philippe Coutinho.

Watched by England boss Roy Hodgson, Sterling kept his composure after Suarez turned provider, beating Dejan Lovren before cutting the ball back into the path of his teenage team-mate.

And Liverpool fans were singing "We're going to win the league" when Gerrard made it 3-0 in stoppage time after Fonte's lunge on Suarez.

Southampton manager Mauricio Pochettino:

"I thought 3-0 wasn't a fair result. Liverpool were a lot more clinical than we were in front of goal.

"But we had some very good chances that wouldn't go in for us.

"We just need to keep on working. We're going to be without many players who are going to be away on international duty.

"When they come back on Thursday and Friday, we'll be more than ready for the next game."

Date: 1 March 2014

Opposition: Southampton

Competition: League

	Mail	Sunday Times	Sun Telegraph	Telegraph		1 March 2014
	Echo	Observer	Times	Mirror		
	BBC	Sun Independent	Guardian	South Daily Echo		

BBC

Full time Match ends, Southampton 0, Liverpool 3.

90:00+5:10Full time Second Half ends, Southampton 0, Liverpool 3.

90:00+4:09Goal scored Goal!Goal! Southampton 0, Liverpool 3. Steven Gerrard (Liverpool converts the penalty with a right footed shot to the top right corner.

90:00+3:32 Penalty conceded by Jose Fonte (Southampton after a foul in the penalty area.

90:00+3:32 Penalty Liverpool. Luis Suarez draws a foul in the penalty area.

90:00+2:26 Attempt blocked. Morgan Schneiderlin (Southampton left footed shot from outside the box is blocked.

90:00+1:27 Foul by Gastón Ramírez (Southampton.

90:00+1:27 Glen Johnson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

90:00+0:38 Foul by Gastón Ramírez (Southampton.

90:00+0:38 Joe Allen (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.

89:10 Foul by Dejan Lovren (Southampton.

89:10 Iago Aspas (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

85:47Booking Steven Gerrard (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

85:43 Adam Lallana (Southampton wins a free kick in the defensive half.

85:43 Foul by Steven Gerrard (Liverpool.

84:54Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Liverpool. Iago Aspas replaces Daniel Sturridge.

83:08Booking Victor Wanyama (Southampton is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

82:59 Foul by Victor Wanyama (Southampton.

82:59 Luis Suarez (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

81:21 Sam Gallagher (Southampton wins a free kick in the attacking half.

81:21 Foul by Daniel Agger (Liverpool.

79:54 Corner, Southampton. Conceded by Jon Flanagan.

77:28 Attempt missed. Jay Rodriguez (Southampton right footed shot from outside the box misses to the right. Assisted by Luke Shaw.

76:48 Foul by Victor Wanyama (Southampton.

76:48 Raheem Sterling (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

76:07Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Southampton. Victor Wanyama replaces Jack Cork.

76:00Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Southampton. Sam Gallagher replaces Rickie Lambert.

74:38 Attempt missed. Luis Suarez (Liverpool right footed shot from the right side of the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.

73:43 Attempt missed. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from the right side of the box misses to the left following a corner.

73:07 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Artur Boruc.

72:37 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Artur Boruc.

72:31 Attempt saved. Steven Gerrard (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Raheem Sterling.

71:42 Attempt missed. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is too high. Assisted by Joe Allen.

71:05 Jack Cork (Southampton wins a free kick in the defensive half.

71:05 Foul by Raheem Sterling (Liverpool.

69:11Booking Jordan Henderson (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

68:55 Luke Shaw (Southampton wins a free kick on the left wing.

68:55 Foul by Jordan Henderson (Liverpool.

68:07 Attempt missed. Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool right footed shot from a difficult angle on the right misses to the left. Assisted by Luis Suarez.

60:10 Gastón Ramírez (Southampton wins a free kick in the attacking half.

60:10 Foul by Joe Allen (Liverpool.

57:50Goal scored Goal!Goal! Southampton 0, Liverpool 2. Raheem Sterling (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box to the bottom right corner. Assisted by Luis Suarez.

56:49 Offside, Southampton. Jack Cork tries a through ball, but Jay Rodriguez is caught offside.

56:27Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Liverpool. Raheem Sterling replaces Philippe Coutinho.

55:22 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.

53:22 Foul by Gastón Ramírez (Southampton.

53:22 Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

52:19 Jack Cork (Southampton wins a free kick in the defensive half.

52:19 Foul by Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool.

48:58 Attempt saved. Adam Lallana (Southampton left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Rickie Lambert.

48:37 Attempt blocked. Steven Gerrard (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.

46:57 Attempt blocked. Jay Rodriguez (Southampton right footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Adam Lallana.

46:07 Attempt missed. Morgan Schneiderlin (Southampton header from the right side of the six yard box misses to the left. Assisted by Adam Lallana with a cross following a corner.

45:45 Corner, Southampton. Conceded by Martin Skrtel.

45:12 Attempt blocked. Gastón Ramírez (Southampton left footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Adam Lallana.

45:00 Second Half begins Southampton 0, Liverpool 1.

45:00Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Southampton. Gastón Ramírez replaces Steven Davis.

45:00+2:03Half time First Half ends, Southampton 0, Liverpool 1.

45:00+1:35 Foul by Morgan Schneiderlin (Southampton.

45:00+1:35 Jon Flanagan (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

44:53 Foul by Jay Rodriguez (Southampton.

44:53 Daniel Agger (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

42:33 Attempt saved. Jay Rodriguez (Southampton right footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Luke Shaw with a cross.

38:12 Attempt missed. Morgan Schneiderlin (Southampton right footed shot from the right side of the box is too high. Assisted by Adam Lallana.

36:48 Attempt saved. Luis Suarez (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Daniel Sturridge.

33:33 Attempt missed. Jay Rodriguez (Southampton right footed shot from the right side of the box is too high. Assisted by Rickie Lambert.

32:43 Attempt missed. Adam Lallana (Southampton left footed shot from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Luke Shaw with a cross.

31:07 Adam Lallana (Southampton hits the left post with a left footed shot from the centre of the box. Assisted by Rickie Lambert with a headed pass.

29:27 Attempt missed. Dejan Lovren (Southampton right footed shot from the centre of the box is just a bit too high. Assisted by Steven Davis with a cross following a corner.

29:00 Corner, Southampton. Conceded by Glen Johnson.

28:02 Offside, Liverpool. Martin Skrtel tries a through ball, but Luis Suarez is caught offside.

25:15 Attempt missed. Rickie Lambert (Southampton right footed shot from the centre of the box is high and wide to the left. Assisted by Luke Shaw with a cross.

21:07 Attempt missed. Luis Suarez (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is just a bit too high from a direct free kick.

20:02 Luis Suarez (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

20:02 Foul by Jack Cork (Southampton.

18:11 Offside, Southampton. Jose Fonte tries a through ball, but Jay Rodriguez is caught offside.

15:45Goal scored Goal!Goal! Southampton 0, Liverpool 1. Luis Suarez (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box to the bottom right corner.

9:59 Delay over. They are ready to continue.

9:12 Delay in match Luke Shaw (Southampton because of an injury.

8:07 Attempt missed. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the right side of the box is close, but misses to the right following a corner.

7:42 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Morgan Schneiderlin.

6:56 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Adam Lallana.

6:01 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Jose Fonte.

0:00 First Half begins.

0:00 Lineups are announced and players are warming up.