

Date: 28 October 2014
 Opposition: Swansea City
 Competition: League Cup

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THE TIMES

Balotelli sets himself on the road to redemption

Liverpool 2 Balotelli 86, Lovren 90 Swansea City 1 Emnes 65

Brendan Rodgers may have already become wary of what he describes as "the Mario Balotelli show", but for once he was more than happy to benefit from the drama that the maligned forward inevitably provides. With Liverpool trailing 1-0 to Swansea City and only four minutes remaining, Balotelli turned a tie that had been slipping away from them before Dejan Lovren struck a stoppage-time winner after the visiting team had been reduced to ten men.

Anfield has produced more than its fair share of late drama and this was another such occasion. Marvin Emnes looked to have given Swansea a second win there in the Capital One Cup in two seasons but Balotelli's late equaliser triggered a chain of events that culminated in them being knocked out of the competition. The harsh sending-off of Federico Fernandez followed before Lovren headed Philippe Coutinho's free kick into the Kop goal to give Liverpool a much-needed win.

For the first time since the final game of the 2012-13 season, Rodgers named a starting line-up without Steven Gerrard and Raheem Sterling, the pair having been given a rare game off after featuring more often than their manager would like as a result of Liverpool's overreliance on them. In keeping with standard procedure in the Capital One Cup, Garry Monk also took the opportunity to rest some of his leading lights, making five changes to Liverpool's nine.

Despite making fewer adjustments, Swansea initially struggled more to come to terms with their manager's approach. Liverpool, with Coutinho prominent, settled immediately, dominating possession and territory without looking particularly threatening. Far too often, neat approach play came to nothing as they worked their way to the edge of the Swansea penalty area, only to let themselves down with their final ball. Apart from a Lucas Leiva shot from the edge of the area that required only a routine save from Gerhard Tremmel, they failed to trouble the Swansea goalkeeper as their dominance of the opening half-hour yielded no end-product. Lazar Markovic had the best opportunity to change that, but having been presented with a clear shot at goal after a flowing move involving Coutinho and Jordan Henderson, the winger betrayed his lack of confidence with a skewed left-foot strike that sailed comfortably wide of Tremmel's goal.

The saving grace for Liverpool was that, while they struggled in vain to find a cutting edge, Swansea were offering precious little as an attacking force, apparently content to sit deep and soak up the pressure.

The tactic almost proved to be their undoing on two separate occasions within a matter of minutes as Fabio Borini curled a shot narrowly wide before having another effort saved by the sprawling Tremmel. At that stage it was all Liverpool, but they had nothing to show for their dominance. It is easy at such times to refer to the hole left by Luis Suarez's departure and Daniel Sturridge's injury problems, but they still fielded an attacking quartet featuring four full internationals for England, Italy, Serbia and Brazil. Liverpool do have options, it is just that none of them are in form or flushed with confidence. That weakness means that games are not being put beyond their opponents, regardless of how well Liverpool perform, and it almost undermined them again before the half-time interval when Nathan Dyer had one shot deflected narrowly wide and Jonjo Shelvey a well-struck free kick saved by Brad Jones. Rodgers, who has had concerns about the Anfield pitch since the start of this season, had the playing surface watered at half-time in the hope that the added slickness would aid Liverpool's passing game. Aside from a Coutinho shot that Tremmel saved, though, there was no immediate discernible difference to what had gone before, with Liverpool taking the game to Swansea without looking likely to open them up. Having flourished under Rodgers's style of management during his time there, Swansea were too well versed in his philosophy for them to be undone easily by it. Ashley Williams, in particular, seemed to be able to read Liverpool's intentions each time they pushed forward and was able to snuff out what little danger they posed as a result. Not that the Swansea captain was being overly tested, but his knack of being in the right place at the right time ensured that the visiting team's defence remained difficult to break down. In turn, that gave Swansea a belief that they might need only one good chance to win a game they had been second best in. When one fell to Bafetimbi Gomis from Shelvey's corner, Anfield feared the worst, but the forward's header was too close to Jones, who saved with ease. Buoyed by that attempt, Swansea's sense of adventure grew and they were rewarded with the game's opening goal after 66 minutes.

As has been the case so often this season, Liverpool's soft centre was their undoing as Shelvey was given too much space to pick out the rampaging Neil Taylor and the left back found Emnes, who had also not been picked up, and the Holland Under-21 international beat Jones with a well taken first-time shot on the turn. The goal may have been against the run of play but it was also predictable and will further test Rodgers's patience with Lovren, who had allowed Emnes to run off him. Glen Johnson, Coutinho and Rickie Lambert all had shots saved as Liverpool's search for an equaliser became increasingly urgent before Rodgers turned to Balotelli, who replaced Lambert.

The substitution paid off six minutes later as Balotelli got in front of Angel Rangel on the edge of the six-yard box to meet Borini's cross with a closerange volley that gave Tremmel no chance. The late drama continued when Fernandez was given a straight red card for a foul on Coutinho and from the Brazilian's resultant free kick Lovren snatched victory.

Liverpool (4-2-3-1): B Jones -- J Manquillo, K Toure, D Lovren, G Johnson -- Lucas

Leiva, J Henderson -- F Borini, P Coutinho, L Markovic (sub: A Lallana, 70min) -- R Lambert (sub: M Balotelli, 79). Substitutes not used: S Mignolet, A Moreno, E Can, M Skrtel, J Rossiter. Booked: Toure.

Swansea City (4-2-3-1): G Tremmel -- A Rangel, A Williams, F Fernandez, N Taylor -- J Fulton (sub: T Carroll, 88), J Shelvey -- N Dyer (sub: W Routledge, 66), M Emnes, J Montero -- B Gomis (sub: W Bony, 81). Substitutes not used: L Fabianski, T Carroll, K Bartley, L Shepherd, M Barrow. Booked: Williams, Taylor, Fulton. Sent off: Fernandez.

Referee: K Stroud.

the guardian

Balotelli ends goal drought to spark Liverpool's stirring late turnaround
 The Mario Balotelli soap opera has taken a dramatic twist. The tale has been one of anguish and irritation for Brendan Rodgers since he took a punt on the Italy international 10 weeks ago but it turned to joy and relief as the maligned striker instigated a rousing Liverpool recovery at Swansea City's expense in the Capital One Cup.

Rodgers' team advanced to the quarter-finals having stared at a demoralising exit and a third consecutive home game without a goal with 86 minutes on the clock. Marvin Emnes had swept Garry Monk's side ahead in impressive fashion and Swansea appeared set for a second fourth-round win at Anfield in two years. Then Fabio Borini delivered an exquisite cross from the right wing, Balotelli showed movement in the penalty area that many at Liverpool had begun to fear was beyond him and steered home only his second goal for the club on the volley. "Finally," he later tweeted.

Judgment must be reserved on a potential turning point for the pounds 16m signing from Milan. In the context of a trying cup tie at Anfield his impact was beyond dispute. Liverpool were toiling before his equaliser. Shortly after it Federico Fernandez was harshly sent off for a 90th-minute challenge on Philippe Coutinho and it was from the Brazilian's deep free-kick in stoppage time that Dejan Lovren headed the winner into an unguarded visiting net. Swansea's defence and goalkeeper Gerhard Tremmel were at fault for Lovren's first competitive goal for Liverpool but the dismissal of a centre-half seconds earlier cannot be discounted from the set-piece chaos.

"With better defending for the first goal and a better decision for the sending-off we'd be getting away from here with a win," Monk, the Swansea manager, said. "It is clearly not a red card. If anything, the Liverpool player's foot was higher than our player's foot. The referee [Keith Stroud] is sensible and hopefully he will rescind it."

Rodgers did not appear for the post-match press conference, electing to send his assistant Colin Pascoe instead. He missed a rare chance to answer a barrage of Balotelli questions with a positive slant.

"It is great for Mario, he wants to work all the time," said Pascoe. "He is a resilient lad with a tremendous talent. He wants to work on his movement and his finishing. We had to assess him before the game. He felt something in his knee during the warm-up and Mike Marsh [the first team coach] sent him in to see the physio."

The all-clear proved an invaluable verdict for Liverpool. Rodgers' team controlled the opening 40 minutes, Coutinho to the fore, without overworking Tremmel in the Swansea goal and their display was becoming increasingly erratic before Balotelli's intervention.

Lazar Markovic squandered the home side's best chance before the interval when he latched on to an incisive counterattack led by Coutinho and Jordan Henderson, who was captain for the night with Steven Gerrard rested along with Raheem Sterling. A sliced effort into the Anfield Road stand encapsulated Markovic's contribution since his pounds 20m summer arrival from Benfica.

Swansea struggled initially. "We allowed Liverpool too much time on the ball," Monk said, but the visitors finally exerted pressure on their opponents and found their accuracy in possession in the second half. Nathan Dyer and the former Liverpool midfielder Jonjo Shelvey went close moments before the interval, Bafetimbi Gomis tested the stand-in keeper Brad Jones with a header from Shelvey's corner shortly after the restart and a rare incisive move produced the breakthrough in the 66th minute.

Shelvey was afforded far too much space to drive at the centre of Liverpool's defence. His attempted flick into the area failed to come off but deflected to Neil Taylor, the marauding left-back, who lofted the ball into the penalty area for Emnes to sweep a fine left-footed volley beyond Jones and into the far corner. The former Holland Under-21 international almost doubled the visitors' lead from Jefferson Montero's pass after a loose ball from Lucas Leiva and Tremmel denied Glen Johnson when parrying the full-back's drive from distance.

Rodgers introduced Adam Lallana and Balotelli for the ineffective pair of Markovic and Rickie Lambert in the closing stages but a second successive midweek cup defeat, following Real Madrid's imperious Champions League win last week, beckoned until the Italian met his compatriot's fine delivery.

There was still time for Balotelli to engage in a running argument with Shelvey, one that the Liverpool striker was keen to continue after Lovren's late winner and had not abated by the time the two reached the tunnel. For once, however, Balotelli had cause for celebration.

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The Mail

LOVREN IS ALL YOU NEED; Two late strikes deny Swansea famous victory

FINALLY Mario. Never has the name he uses on Twitter been so appropriate, as the man who has been so derided at long last came to Liverpool's rescue.

With a ruinous defeat to Swansea looming and Liverpool's season heading for early talk of crisis, up popped Balotelli in the 86th minute to turn in a cross from Fabio Borini. Then, after Federico Fernandez was harshly sent off for a lunge at Philippe Coutinho in time added on, a free-kick to the back post was headed in by the unmarked Dejan Lovren for the winner.

Balotelli, having come on to replace Rickie Lambert, ended a goal drought that stretched back to September 16 to rescue a tie that appeared to be slipping from their grasp after Marvin Emnes had fired in a 65th-minute opener.

'In many ways we hope this game will be slightly less eventful than the previous round against Middlesbrough,' Liverpool boss Brendan Rodgers had written in his programme notes. 'That was a long evening for all concerned but the players' desire to progress was evident throughout.' That contest last month had everything you could wish for in a cup tie, as Liverpool flirted with elimination before squeezing through via an extraordinary penalty shoot-out that took more than 15 minutes and 29 kicks to complete.

In order to make things a little less complicated, Rodgers -- while making nine changes to the side who drew 0-0 with Hull -- selected a line-up with top-flight experience, spearheaded by Rickie Lambert, who had made clear his intention to impress. Swansea gave Rodgers one of the most uncomfortable moments of his time at Anfield at this stage of the competition two years ago, as the team he left behind in South Wales came to Merseyside and handed out an 3-1 beating.

Rodgers said repeatedly during the summer that his ambition was to bring a piece of silverware back to Anfield and Liverpool began this contest with a determination to stay on the front foot.

Their early pressure culminated in Brazil midfielder Lucas testing Gerhard Tremmel with a drive from 20 yards in the eighth minute; it lacked the power to trouble the Swansea keeper but it served notice of the ambition of Rodgers' side.

Next, a move down the left saw Lambert peel away from Fernandez but, much to the England striker's frustration, there was nobody arriving in the six-yard area to apply the finishing touch to his inviting cross.

Heavily involved in Liverpool's play was Coutinho and in the space of 60 seconds he tried to unlock Swansea's defence, first with a drive from 25 yards and then a ball via Jordan Henderson to Lazar Markovic. Both shots, however, were skewed horribly high into the Anfield Road end.

On Liverpool pressed and Fabio Borini was next to try his luck. The Italian has found it difficult to get playing time in recent weeks but, in fairness to him, he was one of the brighter players here and his efforts were the closest of a humdrum half. One shot, with his left foot, whistled past the upright, while the other, 60 seconds later, forced Tremmel to plunge low down to his right to force it away for a corner. It was as close as anyone had got to breaking the deadlock.

Swansea had offered little but they finished the half on a positive footing as Nathan Dyer went close with a deflected shot, while former Liverpool player Jonjo Shelvey tested Brad Jones with a free-kick in time added on, reminding the hosts they could not have things all their own way. Part of Liverpool's problems in recent weeks has been how they have lost their way in games when things have not gone as they would have wanted them to, so this was going to be a test of their character as much as anything else. Their cause was helped, though, by a healthy Anfield crowd refusing to get anxious and Liverpool again started the second period with purpose, with the bright and industrious Coutinho again taking it upon himself to test Tremmel from distance.

Yet there was never a sense Swansea were forced to cling on and they began to grow into the contest, enjoying their best period of the game and the more they moved the ball around, the more rattled Liverpool became.

A sense that the tide was turning arrived on the hour when, from another precise Shelvey corner, Bafetimbi Gomis wriggled away from Lovren and thumped a header straight at Jones. It was a portent of things to come.

Moments later, Shelvey again started driving Swansea forward but when his ball was cut out, Neil Taylor latched on to it and ushered it forward into the path of Emnes, who had taken full advantage of the fact Lovren had gone to sleep.

With plenty of time and space, Emnes took gleeful delight in thumping a volley beyond the exposed Jones to send the visiting hordes into delirium.

Then came Balotelli's life-saving equaliser, followed by Fernandez's sending-off, and Lovren's winner. This time a crisis was averted for Rodgers.

SUPER STAT

Balotelli's goal preserved a cherished Liverpool record -- the last time they didn't score at Anfield in a League Cup match was in 1995.

2-3-1) TEAM AVERAGE 6.05 Jones 6 Manquillo 6 Toure 6 Lovren 5.5 Johnson 6 Henderson 6 Lucas 6 Borini 6.5 Coutinho 7 Markovic 5 Lallana 70 6.5 Lambert 6.5 Balotelli 79 2 Balotelli 86 Lovren 90 1 LIVERPOOL SWANSEA Emnes 65 Subs not used Mignolet, Moreno, Can, Skrtel, Rossiter Manager Brendan Rodgers 6 Booked Toure Man of the match Jonjo Shelvey (4-2-3-1) TEAM AVERAGE 7.18 Tremmel 7.5 Rangel 7 Fernandez 7 Williams 7.5 Taylor 7 Shelvey 8 Fulton 7.5 ??Carroll 88 Dyer 7 ??Routledge 67 7 Emnes 7 Montero 6.5 Gomis 7 ??Bony 81 Subs not used Fabianski, Bartley, Shephard, Barrow Manager Garry Monk 7 Booked Taylor, Fulton. Williams Sent off Fernandez Referee Keith Stroud

The Daily Telegraph

Balotelli late show brings Airfield to life

Liverpool 2 Balotelli 86, Lovren 90

Swansea City 1 Emnes 65 Att: 42,582

Finally it was all about Mario for the right reasons. Mario Balotelli rose from the bench to inspire an incredible Liverpool comeback against Swansea.

The Italian volleyed an 86th-minute equaliser after it seemed Brendan Rodgers' side were heading for a tame exit from the Capital One Cup, before Dejan Lovren headed the winner in the fifth minute of injury time.

It was a brilliant finish from the Italian at his, and his club's, moment of need.

Marvin Emnes's second half volley had put Swansea on the brink of victory and Liverpool looked bereft of ideas until Fabio Borini scurried down the right flank and delivered the perfect cross.

Balotelli, who'd missed a sitter in front of The Kop last weekend, made no mistake this time and after Federico Fernandez's red card, Lovren stole victory with the last action heading in at The Kop end.

How Rodgers needs this victory to be a catalyst for more in the coming months. He will be seeing this as a potential turning point in the season.

Imagine heading to the Royal Shakespeare Company every week to see Laurence Olivier in his prime. How would you feel if a year later you were being charged the same price to see Christopher Biggins playing Widow Twankey?

This is rather what it feels like for Liverpool supporters heading to Anfield since Luis Suarez's departure. It is not the fault of Rickie Lambert, Balotelli or Borini that they have been so badly miscast in an attempt to replace the irreplaceable, but you have to forgive the audience for taking time to adjust their outlook.

Lambert was given the opportunity to give his Liverpool career a jolt for the visit of Garry Monk's side, and if goodwill has anything to do with it the goals will flow. He is certainly improving.

Balotelli, who had discovered earlier that no police action would be taken following an alleged altercation in Manchester last week, started as substitute.

Other notable changes saw Steven Gerrard and Raheem Sterling rested, while Brad Jones replaced Simon Mignolet; which is usually enough to make the trepidation palpable.

Swansea won at Anfield on their way to lifting the League Cup two years ago, and for Monk this was a meeting of the apprentice and mentor, Rodgers being the primary influence on his former captain's coaching career. The Welsh side made several changes of their own, with Wilfried Bony; a one; time Anfield target; kept in reserve.

Lambert started brightly, but it was the nimble feet of Coutinho that offered the early threat. Gerhard Tremmel had to be alert to hold on to Lucas's drive on eight minutes after Coutinho had threaded the pass to his compatriot.

The Brazilian was at the core of all Liverpool's most threatening early moments and another scintillating run at the heart of Swansea's defence should have led to the opening goal on 28 minutes. Lucas and Jordan Henderson exchanged one; touch passes with Coutinho and worked a simple opening for Lazar Markovic, who somehow sliced a shot nearer to the corner flag than the goal.

Swansea offered little attacking threat until the closing minutes of the first half when Nathan Dyer tried to pick his spot from 20 yards and was not far off as Jones watched, seemingly helpless. Jonjo Shelvey then forced Jones into a save from a freekick as Liverpool's defence showed their first signs of vulnerability.

Rodgers had options on the bench, Balotelli and Adam Lallana seemingly most likely to be summoned. Markovic, especially, was struggling. Coutinho remained the most likely source of a goal for Liverpool, either as goalscorer or creator, but it was in danger of turning into a tranquil evening for Tremmel. Confidence was visibly growing in the away ranks, assisted by a series of corners and Liverpool old boy Shelvey's increasing influence.

Coutinho again struck off target on 63 minutes after more encouraging link play from Lambert, but it was Swansea who found the breakthrough on 65 minutes through Emnes's volley. Borini's tackle on Neil Taylor on the edge of the penalty deflected invitingly into the Dutchman's path and he struck across Jones.

The goal provoked a frantic period, Glen Johnson testing Tremmel from 20 yards, but Rodgers was now desperate to locate the cutting edge that has been missing all season. The inevitable substitution; Lallana for Markovic; came on 70 minutes.

Lambert was working hard but chances were not falling his way. He tested Tremmel with a snapshot on 73 minutes, and Coutinho tried likewise two minutes later, but everything seemed to be from distance.

Swansea looked just as likely to increase their advantage on the counter; attack, and having resisted temptation for 77 minutes, Rodgers finally called on Balotelli in an attempt to stay in the cup.

The Italian replaced Lambert; who might have considered himself a little unfortunate. The ovation from The Kop sounded more in hope than expectation. But this time the Italian delivered, neatly volleying Borini's cross on 86 minutes and when Fernandez was given a red card for a lunge on Coutinho, the advantage was all with Liverpool and Lovren headed his late, late winner.

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Balotelli strikes as Liverpool win after late show

The evening began with even less hope than ever that he would finally deliver. Mario Balotelli felt a twinge in his knee in the substitutes' warm-up and had to sit back down. But it is a fact that he can make things happen when he arrives on a football pitch. It was he who washed up in the six-yard box when Liverpool's ignominious season seemed to be plumbing new depths of despair and toe-poked home the vital goal that levelled the game.

Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers was expressionless and so was Rickie Lambert. This night was supposed to be his big opportunity to shine. Yet Lambert had managed to conjure next to nothing in 80 minutes. Balotelli took only 14 minutes to pop up in the box, free and available to receive Fabio Borini's cross and score.

Whatever fates befall Balotelli in the weeks to come, Rodgers will know that he owes the Italian for this one because Liverpool were lifeless, listless and heading straight out of the League Cup. His goal kicked them into life. They were helped by the dismissal of Swansea's Federico Fernandez, another staging post on the visiting side's short road to disaster in the game's closing stages. Fernandez was red carded for a two-footed challenge on Philippe Coutinho.

That meant that the South Wales side's central defence was in a state of chaos when a 94th-minute free kick was swung over by Coutinho, looping over defenders and leaving the goalkeeper, Gerard Tremmel, to lunge wildly and hopelessly for a ball that Dejan Lovren was able to head home - sending Anfield into delirium and Liverpool into the last eight.

Another extraordinary finish to a League Cup game here and hardly what Rodgers would have ordered as he seeks to bring some sense and order to this season.

"Through at 10.39pm" stated one of the headlines in the match programme which was remembering the third round penalty marathon against Middlesbrough. "We hope that tonight's fixture will be slightly less eventful," Rodgers observed.

And those words proved to be painfully prophetic. This was the fixture which delivered five goals in the first half last spring before Liverpool claimed the Premier League points 4-3, yet here again we saw what happens when you take away the wild abandon of that breathtaking side and add to it the same defensive weakness which was evident back then.

The anxiety which whips around the Liverpool support when their team has not scored is enormous. They know what can happen to that defence of theirs. And so it was, as they headed towards 270 minutes without a goal at Anfield, that a Swansea side who were only just beginning to threaten broke through.

The goal asked new questions of Lovren as the centre half was immobile when Marvin Emnes ran onto the ball which full-back Neil Taylor had taken from Jonjo Shelvey and rolled into his path. Emnes thanked him very much and volleyed home.

The game had not seemed to be destined for this as Liverpool took control of its early stages. There were players on the field with a desperation to prove themselves that has seemed beyond Balotelli and they certainly showed it. No player wants to belong more fully to Anfield than Lambert, a son of this city, whose hopes of being Rodgers' target man of choice evaporated when Balotelli arrived at the club and reduced the significance of holding the No 9 jersey to shreds.

Lambert's early opportunities were scant because Liverpool were not geared up to provide for him from the flanks. The one-time factory worker's moment of promise in a sterile first half came when he turned creator - spinning adroitly off Fernandez and running into the box, with a low cross which no one had arrived to meet. But he could not dominate.

The forward whose Liverpool hopes have reduced far more - Fabio Borini - was the greater attacking threat. His decision to reject a move away to Queen's Park Rangers this summer, in the face of Rodgers' wishes, showed that he is not a player to dwell on others' negative perceptions.

He certainly had some ice in his veins when his second start of the season came because it was he who whipped the game into life.

He rolled the ball under his studs, swivelled and curled a shot narrowly wide of Tremmel's right post around the half-hour mark and within a minute was seizing a loose ball from Shelvey to cut in 10 yards from the left wing.

The Italian's volleyed cross, delivered when he took Jordan Henderson's 30-yard lofted cross-field ball on the full, was also part of his fine contribution in this game. But though Coutinho orchestrated a first half for Liverpool in which they were dominant and convincing, they could not break through.

Lambert's second-half opportunities were equally scant, though the look on his face told of a man whose dream has given way to a nightmare. Fernandez and Ashley Williams are the kind of defenders a Liverpool striker - and the Lambert of Southampton - would take on and dominate but he just could not summon the self-belief. The look on his face when a half effort midway through the second half had been easily collected by Tremmel told the story. Contrast his demeanour to that of Swansea's Shelvey - a player whose wish to succeed here was revealed by his applause for the Kop faithful. Yet Balotelli ended the evening in a tussle with Shelvey as they walked off. It always has to be him but this time he dictated the course of the night.



LOV IS ALL YOU NEED

IT was almost as if the gods scripted it. Mario Balotelli finally lived up to his billing last night to offer Liverpool Capital One Cup salvation.

Just as it seems the Reds' current ailment would be confirmed as serious, the Italian striker did what he does best, which is to turn logic on its head.

With the home side facing another devastating reverse at home and a third consecutive failure to score on their own turf, Super Mario was unleashed to perform his super-hero duties.

With barely 10 minutes remaining, and Marvin Emnes putting Swansea on course for a second stunning victory at Anfield in this competition in three years, he came on as a sub. His mission was not only to save the game, but his club's fast disintegrating season.

And of course, after all the criticism, all and questions about his commitment and character, he scored the equaliser that finally tipped the balance of the game the home team's way and helped deliver a last-gasp victory.

That came deep into stoppage time when City were reduced to 10 men after a two footed - if hardly vicious - lunge by Federico Fernandez on the impressive Philippe Coutinho, and the Reds capitalised with a header from Dejan Lovren. But it was Balotelli who made the difference and typically stole the limelight.

For once he deserves it too, because it is hard to underestimate the importance of his goal, given where Liverpool were heading. They had passed and probed against Swansea, enjoying plenty of possession but not much conviction, and were again exposed when Emnes produced a stunning 66th-minute volley for what seemed like another desperately disappointing cup night here.

But good work down the right from Fabio Borini and a brilliant cross from the muchmaligned Italian saw his compatriot Balotelli produce a brilliant first-time finish four minutes from time.

That provided the spark that saw a transformed Liverpool tear into Swansea for the final few minutes and find a winner when Lovren finished from Coutinho's free-kick, after a bad mistake from Swans keeper Gerhard Tremmel.

It puts them in the quarter-finals and averts what was a looming crisis.

Nights such as these seem reserved for the disaffected - those fans who cannot get tickets for the big games and those players who find themselves pushed into the margins by unimpressed managers.

Liverpool introduced many of those, with nine changes to the team that stuttered to a draw against Hull on Saturday. Boss Brendan Rodgers offered the likes of Borini and Lucas - not even on the bench in the last month - a chance to emerge from the shadows.

For some there are reasons why their appearances have been limited. Perhaps the most obvious of those was Lazar Markovic, struggling under the weight of a PS20million price tag in what must seem a ferocious new league after playing in Portugal.

In the opening half hour especially, he was a player devoid of confidence and who seemed not to want the ball.

On the half hour, we discovered why. Liverpool, who at least looked tidy in possession and enthusiastic in approach to that point, created what was a glorious opportunity for the Serb.

There was a flash of the exquisite from Coutinho and a more pragmatic square pass from Jordan Henderson, leaving Markovic with only Tremmel to beat from close range . . . yet he sliced a shot horribly wide.

He is 20, and still learning, but players tend to have it or not in this league, and the jury is already beginning to discuss a verdict.

Borini and Lucas fared rather better - as did Balotelli.

Jones 6, 6, Toure 6, Lovren 6, 6, Lucas 6, Henderson Coutinho 7, Markovic 5 Lallana 70, 6), Lambert 6 Balotelli 79), Borini 6 Tremmel 7, Rangel Williams 7, Fernandez 7, 6, Dyer 6 (Routledge 66, 6), Shelvey 7, Fulton 7 (Carroll 88), MOTM Emnes 7, Montero 6, Gomis 6 (Bony 81) REF: Keith Stroud ATT: 42,582 match stats POSSESSION 47% SHOTS ON TARGET 4 SHOTS OFF TARGET 0 CORNERS 7 OFFSIDE 0 FOULS 1 0 CARDS 3 1

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Brendan Rodgers wanted tonight's Capital One Cup tie with Swansea City to be "less eventful" than the previous round. But life is never dull with Mario Balotelli around. Two years ago this week, Swansea City dumped the Reds of the League Cup at the fourth round stage and, with four minutes left, it looked as though they were going to do it again. In the week of Halloween, it seemed as though the ghosts of Liverpool's past were coming back to haunt them but Balotelli intervened. A sucker punch from Marvin Emnes had put Rodgers' side on the brink of crashing out. But on in place of Rickie Lambert, Balotelli kick-started Liverpool's late comeback, one that was completed by Dejan Lovren's injury-time header. From the jaws of another early exit, the Reds are now heading into the quarter-finals. Liverpool had dominated this fourth round tie but Rodgers' old side were the ones who had showed a clinical streak as Emnes capitalised on a kind deflection to volley home the opening goal just past the hour mark. Rodgers' changed side held the lion's share of possession, had more shots and all of the approach play but nothing to show for it. But with less than 10 minutes remaining, Rodgers rolled the dice. On came Balotelli and he changed the course of the game. The Italian's equaliser set Liverpool on course for yet another round of extra-time following their "epic" third round tie with Middlesbrough but from Philippe Coutinho's cross Lovren leapt highest at the back post to grab the winner in exhilarating fashion. This fourth round tie was another test of the strength in depth Rodgers has at his disposal – a luxury he said he didn't have in his first two seasons in charge – but it was a man dropped to the bench that would have the biggest say. Nine changes were made from the side that flattered to deceive against Hull City but £30m worth of talent, in Markovic and Borini alone, was injected in alongside the experience of Glen Johnson, Kolo Toure and the importance of Jordan Henderson. Henderson returned to the starting line-up last night and captained the Reds on his 145th appearance for the club while Brad Jones played his first game since February. The early signs were encouraging as well. Liverpool were lively enough and Gerhard Tremmel had to be alert to block Lucas' effort while Coutinho picked up where he left off from his cameo against Hull by being at the heart of everything good about the Reds. Rodgers applauded the little Brazilian's invention and craft – something that was missing in the 0-0 with Hull – and it was Coutinho who started a rapid counter-attack just before the half hour mark that created a gilt-edged chance for Lazar Markovic. The Serbian, who has struggled to make an impact at Anfield but who has been backed to be a hit, had a clear sight of Tremmel's goal, 12 yards out on the left, but sliced his effort horribly wide. Liverpool's fans groaned in unison. But two quick-fire attempts by Borini improved their mood as first a curling effort from the edge of the area narrowly missed the target before a surging run ended in a powerful drive that Tremmel did well to turn away for a corner. Liverpool were on top and a greater intensity in defending from the front helped snuff Swansea out – so much so that the visitors only registered two shots in the opening 45 minutes – but they headed into the break level. The second of Swansea's first-half efforts came from Jonjo Shelvey's free-kick that Jones did well to keep out to reinforce the need for Rodgers' side to capitalise on their dominance. Coutinho's scheming and probing provided hope that Liverpool would find the breakthrough sooner than later and Liverpool would avoid a repeat of the drawn out tie with Boro. He tested Tremmel with a strong drive from just inside the area after weaving his way into space and even did his share of his defending, much to the satisfaction of Rodgers. But the opening goal remained out of Liverpool's grasp. For all their control on the tie they were unable to prise Swansea open. Bafetimbi Gomis leapt above the Reds defence to head on goal to issue a timely reminder of Swansea's threat. As the hour mark came and went and the game remained locked at 0-0 that earlier hope was slowly being replaced with a sense of unease. Gomis was increasingly a danger on the counter-attack while Liverpool were beginning to commit unnecessary fouls. On 66 minutes, those growing fears were realised when Marvin Emnes volleyed past Jones. Neil Taylor's effort fortuitously looped in the direction of the Swansea forward but his finish was clinical. Liverpool's defending left much to be desired. The Reds attempted to make amends with Johnson forcing Tremmel into an uncomfortable save and Taylor reacting quickest to deny Borini who was ready to pounce from the rebound. Coutinho whipped in the corner, Toure got a glancing header, Lambert prodded an effort towards goal and in the mayhem Jay Fulton headed off the line. Emnes tested Jones before Rodgers acted and took the mis-firing Markovic off and replaced him with Adam Lallana with 20 minutes left. Liverpool remained dominant in possession, Coutinho tried his luck from distance once more as did Lambert but they remained behind. Mario Balotelli followed eight minutes later in place of the hard-working Lambert, who was clapped off, as Rodgers rolled the dice once more. And it paid off as the mercurial Italian got ahead of Angel Rangel and met Borini's cross to make it 1-1. Anfield erupted and in stoppage-time they were lifted once more as Swansea went down to 10 men after Federico Fernandez was shown a straight red card for a lunge on Coutinho. Replays showed the decision from referee Kevin Stroud to be harsh on the Swans'

defender. And Liverpool then made the extra man count as Lovren nodded home his first goal for the club to send them through to the quarter-finals in December. LIVERPOOL (4-2-3-1): Jones, Manquillo, Toure, Lovren, Johnson, Lucas, Henderson (c), Borini, Markovic (Lallana 70), Coutinho, Lambert (Balotelli 79). Subs: Mignolet, Moreno, Can, Skrtel, Rossiter. Goals: Balotelli (86) Lovren (90) Yellow cards: Toure. SWANSEA CITY (4-2-3-1): Tremmel, Rangel, Fernandez, Williams (c), Taylor, Fulton, Shelvey, Dyer (Routledge 66), Emnes, Montero, Gomis (Bony 82). Subs: Fabianski, Carroll, Bartley, Shepherd, Barrow. Goal: Emnes (65). Yellow cards: Fulton, Williams. Red cards: Fernandez. Referee: Kevin Stroud. Attendance: 42, 582.

South Wales Evening Post

SWANSEA City suffered Capital One Cup heartbreak as another famous Anfield victory was snatched from their grasp. Marvin Emnes's memorable volley had looked set to put Garry Monk's men through to the quarter-finals of the competition they won after winning on this ground two years ago. But Swansea were pegged back four minutes from the end thanks to a rare Liverpool goal from Mario Balotelli. Brendan Rodgers's men now had the wind in their sails, and their cause was aided considerably when Federico Fernandez was controversially sent off in the second minute of stoppage time. As the 10 men prepared for an extra half hour, Dejan Lovren headed home at a set-piece to hand Liverpool victory which left Ashley Williams and Co fuming. Monk made five changes to the side which started against Leicester City last weekend, with Gylfi Sigurdsson, Ki Sung-Yueng and Wilfried Bony among the influential figures to miss out. There were rare opportunities for Gerhard Tremmel and Jay Fulton, while Emnes started a game for the first time as a fully-fledged Swansea player. He lined up in Sigurdsson's regular No. 10 role, with pace either side of him and Bafetimbi Gomis leading the line. But there was little focus on Swansea's new-look frontline as Liverpool dominated the first period. Rodgers made nine changes to the team which had begun the Reds' last Premier League fixture, but the depth of the Ulsterman's squad meant there were star names all across the pitch. Swansea needed a performance full of conviction and quality on the ball if they were to compete. And for the majority of the first half, they could not deliver. Possession was given away far too cheaply and, as Swansea fans know, when a Rodgers side get the ball, they tend to keep it. The good news for Monk was that for all their passes, Liverpool rarely threatened to open the visitors up. There were efforts from distance, with Lucas Leiva firing straight at Tremmel and the influential Philippe Coutinho drilling a couple of shots into the crowd. Swansea were struggling to get forward, though when they did just before the half hour, they were very nearly done on the counter attack. Coutinho led the way, feeding skipper for the night Jordan Henderson. His clever pass laid on an opportunity for Lazar Markovic, but he the £20 million winger sliced horribly wide. Off the hook there, Swansea continued to struggle in possession, with Liverpool bossing midfield and the ball coming back too quickly whenever it reached Monk's frontline. Joe Allen was watching from the stands, but Liverpool's other Swansea old boy, Fabio Borini, was keen to make a mark against his club he played for in the 2011 Championship play-off final. First the Italian curled a left-foot shot wide from the edge of the box. Then, after intercepting a Jonjo Shelvey pass, Borini unleashed a fierce low drive which Tremmel did well to turn past the post. As an attacking force, Swansea were practically non-existent until just before the turnaround. When a free-kick was only half-cleared, Nathan Dyer tried to place a shot only for Glen Johnson to block. Liverpool keeper Brad Jones was finally tested just before the whistle when Shelvey, who was given a rousing welcome on his old stamping ground, drilled in a powerful free-kick. But at this point Swansea were delighted to just to be level. The second half began with the same pattern as the first, with Liverpool in control but labouring in the final third. Coutinho, their brightest spark, twisted and turned to make space for a shot only to curl his effort into Tremmel's arms. Yet Swansea slowly began to make their presence felt, with half a chance coming and going as Gomis headed straight at Jones from Shelvey's corner. The Frenchman then had half a shout for a penalty turned down before Swansea, somewhat surprisingly snatched the lead in spectacular fashion. The build-up was not especially pretty, with Shelvey's attempted through ball ricocheting to Neil Taylor. But when Swansea's left-back lifted the ball hopefully into the box, Emnes watched it drop over his shoulder before unleashing a perfect left-foot volley which flew past Jones and into the far corner of the net. Swansea had shown precious little quality in the final third all evening, but this finish was out of the top drawer. Liverpool surged forward in search of a response, and were very nearly level when Johnson's powerful drive was parried by Tremmel. Borini was interested in the rebound, but Taylor was on hand to sweep the ball to safety. Rodgers sent on the likes of Adam Lallana and Balotelli – more than £40 million worth of attacking talent – but Swansea grew in confidence having taken the lead. Yet just as Swansea began to smell victory, Borini's sweet cross sailed over Fernandez and Balotelli prodded home from close range.

Date: 28 October 2014
 Opposition: Swansea City
 Competition: League Cup

Times	Telegraph	S Wales Evening P
Guardian	Mirror	Echo
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28 October
2014

This was a hammer blow for Swansea, and their night would very quickly get worse. Fernandez had been arguably Monk's best player, but he was shown a straight red card in the second minute of stoppage time for a challenge on Coutinho. At first glance, the decision looked tough on the big Argentine. A man light, Swansea buckled right at the end when Lovren found space at the far post to head home Coutinho's free-kick. There were 10 seconds left on the clock. Even if avoiding the extra half hour may have been a blessing of sorts, heartbreak was the word.



Mario Balotelli inspired a stirring comeback as Liverpool scored twice in the final few minutes to beat Swansea and reach the League Cup last eight. The visitors led when Marvin Emnes hooked across Reds understudy keeper Brad Jones into the far corner. Liverpool rarely threatened until substitute Balotelli guided in Fabio Borini's cross. Swans defender Federico Fernandez was sent off before centre-back Dejan Lovren headed in the late winner. Liverpool have made an indifferent start to the Premier League season as they look to replicate last year's second-place finish without the departed Luis Suarez. Swansea, who are a place above their opponents in the top flight, looked set to eliminate the eight-time winners from the League Cup for the second time in three seasons with Emnes' opener. Ex-Swans boss Brendan Rodgers watched his current team fall into a familiar pattern of dominating possession without finding a cutting edge. That was until Balotelli, moved to the bench as one of nine changes to the Reds team which started Saturday's 0-0 Premier League draw against Hull, was introduced with little over 10 minutes left. The Italy striker has faced heavy criticism for both his attitude and goalscoring record since arriving from AC Milan in August. But he responded with a cameo performance that brought the Anfield crowd to its feet. His sharp movement led to the equalising goal and, after Fernandez was shown a straight red card for a lunge on Philippe Coutinho, he also unsettled the Swansea defence in the build-up to the winner. Lovren, whose performances have also been questioned since his £20m move from Southampton, sparked wild celebrations in front of the Kop when he met Coutinho's free-kick to keep alive Rodgers' hopes of winning his first major silverware. Liverpool assistant manager Colin Pascoe: "With the way we were playing I thought we were always going to create a chance. "I thought we were unfortunate to be 1-0 down as the way we played was possibly the best we've played all season, with the character of the lads to keep going and get the win. "It's a win - even if it was so late. It's a great feeling." Swansea City manager Garry Monk: "I'm disappointed. It wasn't a red card, but these things are happening, and hopefully they will stop happening. "With a couple of minutes to go, we should have seen it out. We should have defended better and come away with the win. "But we put on a performance, especially the second half, that we can be proud of."

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Full time Match ends, Liverpool 2, Swansea City 1.
 90:00+6:48 Full time Second Half ends, Liverpool 2, Swansea City 1.
 90:00+6:11 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Ashley Williams.
 90:00+6:10 Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Bradley Jones.
 90:00+4:48 Goal scored Goal! Liverpool 2, Swansea City 1. Dejan Lovren (Liverpool header from the centre of the box to the top right corner. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho with a cross following a set piece situation.
 90:00+3:56 Adam Lallana (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.
 90:00+3:56 Foul by Wayne Routledge (Swansea City.
 90:00+3:18 Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Mario Balotelli with a headed pass.
 90:00+2:40 Attempt missed. Mario Balotelli (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is too high from a direct free kick.
 90:00+1:32 Dismissal Dismissal Federico Fernández (Swansea City is shown the red card.
 90:00+1:27 Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.
 90:00+1:27 Foul by Federico Fernández (Swansea City.
 90:00+0:40 Attempt missed. Mario Balotelli (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is too high. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.
 89:24 Booking Kolo Touré (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.
 89:08 Foul by Kolo Touré (Liverpool.
 89:08 Neil Taylor (Swansea City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 87:20 Substitution Substitution, Swansea City. Tom Carroll replaces Jay Fulton.
 85:25 Goal scored Goal! Liverpool 1, Swansea City 1. Mario Balotelli (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box to the bottom right corner. Assisted by Fabio Borini with a cross.
 84:02 Attempt missed. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the right. Assisted by Fabio Borini.
 82:36 Foul by Javier Manquillo (Liverpool.
 82:36 Jefferson Montero (Swansea City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 81:51 Booking Ashley Williams (Swansea City is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.
 81:41 Fabio Borini (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 81:41 Foul by Ashley Williams (Swansea City.
 81:05 Substitution Substitution, Swansea City. Wilfried Bony replaces Bafétimbi Gomis.
 79:12 Foul by Fabio Borini (Liverpool.
 79:12 Neil Taylor (Swansea City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 78:44 Substitution Substitution, Liverpool. Mario Balotelli replaces Rickie Lambert.
 78:20 Dejan Lovren (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 78:20 Foul by Wayne Routledge (Swansea City.
 77:42 Delay over. They are ready to continue.
 76:48 Delay in match Fabio Borini (Liverpool because of an injury.
 76:25 Attempt blocked. Marvin Emnes (Swansea City right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Jonjo Shelvey.
 75:51 Corner, Swansea City. Conceded by Fabio Borini.
 75:16 Corner, Swansea City. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.
 74:40 Attempt saved. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.
 73:41 Attempt saved. Rickie Lambert (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the centre of the goal.
 72:28 Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Fabio Borini.
 70:23 Offside, Liverpool. Lucas Leiva tries a through ball, but Rickie Lambert is caught offside.
 69:52 Substitution Substitution, Liverpool. Adam Lallana replaces Lazar Markovic.
 68:21 Attempt blocked. Rickie Lambert (Liverpool left footed shot from very close range is blocked. Assisted by Kolo Touré.
 68:20 Attempt missed. Kolo Touré (Liverpool header from the centre of the box misses to the left. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho with a cross following a corner.
 68:04 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Neil Taylor.
 68:01 Attempt saved. Glen Johnson (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.
 67:12 Attempt saved. Marvin Emnes (Swansea City left footed shot from the left side of the box is saved in the top centre of the goal. Assisted by Jefferson Montero.
 66:17 Substitution Substitution, Swansea City. Wayne Routledge replaces Nathan Dyer.
 64:59 Goal scored Goal! Liverpool 0, Swansea City 1. Marvin Emnes (Swansea City left footed shot from the left side of the box to the centre of the goal. Assisted by Neil Taylor.
 64:16 Foul by Lucas Leiva (Liverpool.
 64:16 Neil Taylor (Swansea City wins a free kick on the left wing.
 62:38 Booking Neil Taylor (Swansea City is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.
 62:20 Fabio Borini (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.
 62:20 Foul by Neil Taylor (Swansea City.
 61:52 Attempt missed. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the right. Assisted by Fabio Borini.
 60:20 Attempt saved. Bafétimbi Gomis (Swansea City header from the centre of the box is saved in the top centre of the goal. Assisted by Jonjo Shelvey with a cross.
 59:50 Corner, Swansea City. Conceded by Jordan Henderson.
 58:58 Foul by Jordan Henderson (Liverpool.
 58:58 Marvin Emnes (Swansea City wins a free kick on the left wing.
 57:09 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Angel Rangel.

56:14 Hand ball by Lazar Markovic (Liverpool.
 54:56 Foul by Javier Manquillo (Liverpool.
 54:56 Jefferson Montero (Swansea City wins a free kick on the left wing.
 53:35 Delay over. They are ready to continue.
 53:00 Delay in match Neil Taylor (Swansea City because of an injury.
 51:04 Attempt saved. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Rickie Lambert.
 50:33 Booking Jay Fulton (Swansea City is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.
 50:30 Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.
 50:30 Foul by Jay Fulton (Swansea City.
 49:36 Foul by Fabio Borini (Liverpool.
 49:36 Federico Fernández (Swansea City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 48:35 Corner, Swansea City. Conceded by Javier Manquillo.
 45:00 Second Half begins Liverpool 0, Swansea City 0.
 45:00+0:09 Half time First Half ends, Liverpool 0, Swansea City 0.
 44:58 Fabio Borini (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 44:58 Foul by Neil Taylor (Swansea City.
 44:22 Attempt missed. Angel Rangel (Swansea City right footed shot from the right side of the box misses to the left following a set piece situation.
 44:18 Attempt saved. Jonjo Shelvey (Swansea City right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner.
 43:15 Foul by Jordan Henderson (Liverpool.
 43:15 Nathan Dyer (Swansea City wins a free kick in the attacking half.
 42:42 Corner, Swansea City. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.
 41:39 Corner, Swansea City. Conceded by Glen Johnson.
 41:37 Attempt blocked. Nathan Dyer (Swansea City right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.
 40:45 Foul by Dejan Lovren (Liverpool.
 40:45 Marvin Emnes (Swansea City wins a free kick on the right wing.
 40:28 Foul by Glen Johnson (Liverpool.
 40:28 Nathan Dyer (Swansea City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 39:54 Attempt missed. Lucas Leiva (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the right.
 37:32 Foul by Lucas Leiva (Liverpool.
 37:32 Neil Taylor (Swansea City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 35:11 Foul by Fabio Borini (Liverpool.
 35:11 Neil Taylor (Swansea City wins a free kick in the attacking half.
 34:26 Foul by Rickie Lambert (Liverpool.
 34:26 Federico Fernández (Swansea City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 34:03 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Gerhard Tremmel.
 33:59 Attempt saved. Fabio Borini (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner.
 33:00 Attempt missed. Fabio Borini (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Lazar Markovic.
 29:18 Glen Johnson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 29:18 Foul by Bafétimbi Gomis (Swansea City.
 28:53 Foul by Rickie Lambert (Liverpool.
 28:53 Federico Fernández (Swansea City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 26:44 Attempt missed. Lazar Markovic (Liverpool left footed shot from the left side of the box is high and wide to the left. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.
 25:56 Attempt missed. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the right.
 24:09 Glen Johnson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 24:09 Foul by Angel Rangel (Swansea City.
 22:46 Fabio Borini (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.
 22:46 Foul by Jonjo Shelvey (Swansea City.
 21:44 Attempt missed. Rickie Lambert (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is too high. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho with a cross following a corner.
 21:17 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Neil Taylor.
 19:06 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Marvin Emnes.
 16:33 Offside, Liverpool. Jordan Henderson tries a through ball, but Javier Manquillo is caught offside.
 13:02 Corner, Swansea City. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.
 12:07 Attempt missed. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the left. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.
 9:26 Foul by Lucas Leiva (Liverpool.
 9:26 Marvin Emnes (Swansea City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 9:08 Attempt missed. Fabio Borini (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the left. Assisted by Javier Manquillo with a cross.
 7:36 Attempt saved. Lucas Leiva (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.
 5:08 Attempt missed. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is too high from a direct free kick.
 4:06 Foul by Jonjo Shelvey (Swansea City.
 4:06 Fabio Borini (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.
 0:00 First Half begins.
 0:00 Lineups are announced and players are warming up.