

Date: 24 January 2015

Opposition: Bolton Wanderers

Competition: FA Cup

Mail	Sunday Times	Sun Telegraph	Telegraph
Echo	Observer	Times	Mirror
BBC	Sun Independent	Guardian	Bolton News

THE



TIMES

Sturridge gives Rodgers dilemma for tasks ahead

Liverpool 0

Bolton Wanderers 0

Referee KFRIEND Attendance 43,847

After seeing Liverpool draw a blank against Bolton Wanderers, Brendan Rodgers, the manager, began wrestling with a dilemma, the answer to which could just as easily create a new problem as provide a solution.

Daniel Sturridge's return to training means that the forward could feature against Chelsea tomorrow night and potentially provide the kind of ruthless finishing that Liverpool lacked on Saturday, but an early return from injury comes with an inherent risk.

As far as Sturridge is concerned, Rodgers is between a rock and a hard place. All the available evidence -- six draws in their past seven home games having dominated most, Raheem Sterling, a winger, playing up front and Fabio Borini, Mario Balotelli and Rickie Lambert not being trusted to lead the line -- points to a desperate need for Sturridge's return. But the need for the injury-prone front man to be nursed back after five months of fitness problems is arguably even more crucial.

Rodgers has 24 hours to decide which is greater -- the desire to reach the Capital One Cup final at Chelsea's expense and potentially win his first leading trophy as manager or the need to ensure Sturridge is fit and firing for the rest of the season. As Liverpool prepare to lock horns with Chelsea once more, their manager is dealing with a quandary that could make or break their campaign, but his initial thoughts on the matter are clear -- not even the possibility of reaching a Wembley final will tempt him into taking any unnecessary risks with the player's fitness.

The England player will have to prove he is ready to be involved, most likely from the bench, or else he will miss out. "He wants to be involved in the big games between now and the end of the season," Rodgers said. "This is a big game. But we just have to be realistic. We just have to be careful. This is a very important game, but we have shown without him in the last seven or eight weeks that the team is at a good level. If he feels fresh and he feels it is right to be involved in some part then we will maybe look at it, but it is a big risk.

"I spoke to Dan the other day and he is very excited about how the team is playing. It is suited to his game. He would have fancied himself in this game [against Bolton] to get some goals. But there is no point him being out all this time and then being selected before he is ready. The other players have shown enough in this period so we wouldn't risk him. You cope by making sure that he is available for a sustainable amount of time."

Without Sturridge, Liverpool played well against a spirited Bolton side and created several chances but were undermined by a combination of poor finishing and inspired goalkeeping from Adam Bogdan. The prospect of facing a rejuvenated Sturridge in the replay was put to Neil Lennon afterwards and the Bolton manager responded with mock delight. "Brilliant!" he said. "I think we'll face a very similar threat to the one we faced at Anfield. Daniel maybe has more goals in him than the likes of Sterling, [Adam] Lallana and [Philippe] Coutinho and will bring that pace and quality, but he's not played much football with his time out."

It is that unknown -- the question of Sturridge's readiness -- that can be answered only in the hypothetical. It will dominate Rodgers's thoughts before Liverpool's latest visit to Stamford Bridge. Within the dressing room there is an understandable impatience for Sturridge to return with Jordan Henderson hoping that "when he comes back he will give us the cutting edge" and "will get goals straightaway". But Rodgers has to plan for the long term rather than a one-off, winner-takes-all game and that, more than anything else, is at the heart of his dilemma.

Whether Sturridge features or not, Henderson is likely to run the gauntlet, having clashed with Diego Costa, the Chelsea forward, in the tunnel after the first leg at Anfield. "Probably," the midfield player said. "It's not something I have thought too much about and it does not really bother me. I will go there and do my best for the team. You have to be strong mentally and physically. We have shown we can be physical when we need to be."

TEAMS

Liverpool (3-4-2-1): S Mignolet -- G Johnson, E Can, M Sakho -- J Manquillo (sub: F Borini, 67min), J Allen (sub: L Leiva, 67), J Henderson, J Enrique (sub: L Markovic, 46) -- P Coutinho, A Lallana -- R Sterling. Substitutes not used: D Ward, D Lovren, R Lambert, J Rossiter.

Bolton Wanderers (3-5-2): A Bogdan -- D Dervite, M Mills (sub: J Spearing, 73), D Moxey (sub: D Wheeler, 83) -- L Feeney, N Danns, J Vela, D Pratley, T Ream -- E Heskey (sub: C Wilkinson, 56), E Gudjohnsen. Substitutes not used: A Lonergan, K McNaughton, R Hall, L Trotter. Booked: Mills, Vela, Dervite, Pratley.

the

guardian

Sturridge on standby after Bolton blank

Anfield wallowed in Chelsea's "disgrace" along with the majority while conscious that what might be good for Liverpool's FA Cup prospects may have an adverse effect in the Capital One Cup. The trade-off does not concern Brendan Rodgers.

Liverpool's manager caught a glimpse of Jose Mourinho on TV following his own frustrating but far less consequential fourth-round tie against lower league opposition. Bolton Wanderers, as well-drilled and resolute as a Neil Lennon team is expected to be, merited a replay for stifling their Premier League hosts and for the goalkeeper Adam Bogdan's excellence when Liverpool did break through. The replay slipped down Rodgers' list of priorities as soon as he caught sight of Mourinho, however.

The Chelsea manager claimed at Anfield last week a quadruple was too difficult while his goalkeeper, Thibaut Courtois, insisted the Premier League leaders posses the squad to pull it off. Liverpool will have reduced Chelsea's trophy target by 50% within three days should they follow Bradford City's example and triumph at Stamford Bridge in tomorrow's Capital One Cup semi-final second leg. They are braced for a reaction.

"I saw Jose's interview just briefly," said Rodgers after Saturday's stalemate. "I could see in his face that he wasn't happy. Games like that, he prides himself on - lower-level opposition, especially at home and being 2-0 up. He will be shocked at that. He will want a response. But I don't think it makes things harder for us. "We go there with no fear."

Against their Championship visitors in the FA Cup, Liverpool lacked the fluency that characterised their impressive first-leg display against Mourinho's team.

Raheem Sterling, while the most consistent outlet once again, was guilty of over-elaboration inside the Bolton area and Philippe Coutinho and the substitute Fabio Borini could not find the required finish to beat Bogdan. Their performance cried out for a clinical striker and both fortunately and belatedly, Daniel Sturridge could feature for the first time since August, tomorrow. If not, he will be available for Saturday's league game against West Ham United.

"This is a big game but we have to be realistic, we have to be careful," Rodgers said. "We have shown without him in the last seven, eight weeks that the team is at a good level. If he feels fresh and he feels right to be involved in some part, then we will maybe look at it. But it is a big risk."

Bolton contained Liverpool well until a late onslaught threatened to ruin their replay hopes but with Liam Feeney direct on the right and Neil Danns assured in central midfield, they had chances too. Eidur Gudjohnsen, at 36 the junior partner in attack alongside Emile Heskey, missed two presentable openings on the counter-attack and Lennon admits his team must resist temptation to open up too much on home soil. He said: "I think the replay will be similar to this one, Liverpool will probably have the lion's share of possession and chances again and we just have to stay in it"

Man of the match Adam Bogdan (Bolton Wanderers)

Liverpool 3-4-2-1

Mignolet; Johnson, Can, Sakho; Manquillo (Borini, 68), Henderson, Allen (Lucas, 67), Jose Enrique (Markovic, h-t); Lallana, Coutinho; Sterling.

Subs not used Ward, Lovren, Lambert, Rossiter.

Referee K Friend

Bolton W 3-4-1-2

Bogdan; Dervite, Mills (Spearing, 73), Ream;

Feeney, Danns, Vela,

Moxey (Wheater, 83); Pratley; Heskey (Wilkinson, 56), Gudjohnsen.

Subs not used Lonergan, McNaughton, Hall, Trotter.

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THE INDEPENDENT

DAILY Mirror

They tried to make me rush Dan's rehab, I said NO, NO, NO NO, NO, NO. One simple word, but as Maggie Thatcher once illustrated, repeated, it can carry forbidding meaning.

Brendan Rodgers could have been talking about Mario Balotelli, and any prospect of the Italian returning to theLiverpool side. Instead, the Reds manager used it to offer a revealing insight into his mindset for the rest of the season.

If this FA Cup tie against a spirited and organised Bolton showed anything, then it was how much the Irishman's team miss a true goalscorer. How much they still miss Daniel Sturridge, even during a run of 10 games unbeaten.

It is hard to imagine Bolton escaping with the replay that is their reward for a plucky performance, had the England striker been on the pitch.

It really is hard to imagine too, Rodgers resisting the temptation to wheel his centre-forward out at Stamford Bridge tomorrow evening, given how much a victory and a Wembley appearance could do for his own position at Anfield. Those three words though, were repeated for emphasis. "No, no, no.

"The other players have shown enough so we wouldn't risk him."

What if Sturridge wants to be involved though, surely he will want to play a semi-final at his former club? "No. No. No. He is not fit.

"He wants to be involved in the big games between now and the end of the season. We have to be careful. We will not take any risk."

That is some statement, given Liverpool's form. They have rediscovered last season's fluid, ferocious attacking intent, but for all the skill, pace and desire of Raheem Sterling in an unfamiliar attacking position, they don't quite have the edge up front to finish it all off.

That was evident against Bolton. Even with the ball seemingly connected to the visiting penalty area with an invisible tether, Liverpool couldn't quite find the instinctive finish required. Yet it was perhaps even more evident against Chelsea in the Capital One semi first leg.

Liverpool would not have been flattered by a 4-1 scoreline in that game, and had Sturridge been available, may well have achieved it. Instead they go to the Bridge needing a victory. Rodgers believes it is possible... even if Bradford's shock win there in the FA Cup makes the odds against so much greater. Surely Chelsea can't possibly lose at home twice in a week when they've only lost five times there during Mourinho's entire reign spaced over 10 years?

Surely the task becomes impossible?

""I don't think so. We go there with no fear," Rodgers said with a steely gaze. "The key for us is the speed in the team, the mobility and movement in the team is at a high level."

Not the finishing though. Adam Bogdan was Bolton's man of the match, with fine saves from Jordan Henderson, Sterling, Philippe Coutinho, Fabio Borini and Lucas, and yet the home side never looked comfortable in front of goal.

They could have paid too, given Eidur Gudjohnsen had two chances against the run of play to produce another huge upset.

The veteran Icelander, playing alongside 37-year-old ex-Anfield striker Emile Heskey, may have taken them in his pomp, but Bolton escaped with a replay.

Manager Neil Lennon said: "The last few minutes it gets a bit hairy. My players have shown spirit, they are giving everything for me and the club - and the chairman is happy because we will get a nice pay day."

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LIVERPOOL: Mignolet 6, Johnson 6, Can 6, Sakho 6, Manquillo 5 (Lucas 67, 6), Allen 6 (Borini 67, 6), Henderson 6, Enrique 5 (Markovic 46, 6), Coutinho 5, Sterling 5, Lallana 5. BOLTON: MOTM Bogdan 8, Dervite 6, Mills 7 (Spearing 72,6), Ream 7, Moxey 7 (Wheater 84), Danns 7, Feeney 6, Vela 7, Pratley 7, Gudjohnsen 6, Heskey 6 (Wilkinson 56, 6). REF: Kevin Friend ATT: 43,847 STATS 68% POSSESSION 32% 9 SHOTS ON TARGET 5 SHOTS OFF TARGET 6 CORNERS 0 OFFSIDE 9 FOULS 15 0 0 CARDS 4

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LIVERPOOL

ECHO

Liverpool FC were left to rue a host of missed chances as a resilient Bolton Wanderers held on to force a 0-0 draw in their FA Cup fourth round tie. The Reds will have to travel to the Macron Stadium next month to earn the right to progress into the last 16 of the competition after a frustrating night at Anfield. Brendan Rodgers' side avoided adding their name to the list of Cup upsets after Chelsea, Manchester City, Tottenham and Southampton all crashed out earlier in the day. But the Liverpool boss will know they should have finished the job off against the Championship outfit at the first attempt. With such a hectic February ahead, it's an extra game they could have done without. A lack of quality in the final third – coupled with the heroics of keeper Adam Bogdan – left Kopites frustrated. Liverpool weren't helped by referee Kevin Friend. Bolton captain Matt Mills should have been sent off after tripping substitute Lazar Markovic early in the second half but he went unpunished. And then the Reds had strong appeals for a penalty waved away late on after Jordan Henderson was bundled over by former Reds midfielder Jay Spearing late on. Rodgers rested Steven Gerrard, Martin Skrtel, Lucas Leiva, Alberto Moreno and Markovic with one eye on Tuesday's trip to Stamford Bridge. Glen Johnson and Joe Allen returned after a month out injured, while there were also starts for Jose Enrique, Javier Manquillo and Adam Lallana. Former Reds striker Emile Heskey was given a warm reception on his return to Anfield and Neil Lennon's side showed no fear as they took the game to the hosts early on. The Trotters were well organised defensively and they got players up in support of veteran strike duo Heskey and Eidur Gudjohnsen. The Reds soon settled with Henderson's 30-yarder parried away by Bogdan and Philippe Coutinho also tested him from distance. Bolton's Mills and Josh Vela were both booked for cynical fouls as Liverpool continued to push for a breakthrough. There were moments of real promise. Henderson's excellent pass released Raheem Sterling but his touch let him down and the chance went begging. Just past the half hour mark Sterling burst into the penalty box but his shot deflected off Dorian Dervite and Bogdan was able to gather. Bolton broke off the shackles and almost grabbed a shock lead. Liam Feeney's free-kick was nodded out by Emre Can but it dropped kindly to Dean Moxey, whose left-footed whistled narrowly wide. The Trotters were pinned back once again with Bogdan called upon to deny Johnson and then Lallana. Rodgers made a change at the break as he took off Enrique and brought on Markovic. The substitute made an instant impact. Five minutes into the second half the young Serbian skipped past Mills on the edge of the box before being clearly tripped. It was a professional foul but to Rodgers' disgust Friend gave nothing and the Bolton skipper breathed a sigh of relief. Coutinho's pass then released Sterling but Bogdan was out to save bravely at his feet. Heskey departed to a standing ovation with Conor Wilkinson replacing him as Lennon sought fresh legs. Just before the hour mark Coutinho's piledriver was parried and Manquillo somehow blazed the rebound wide. As anxiety levels in the stands began to grow, Gudjohnsen had two golden chances to fire Bolton into a shock lead. First, the 36-year-old Icelandic frontman side-footed wide from 14 yards and then he blazed over after being picked out by Vela. Rodgers took action as he brought on Lucas and Fabio Borini for Allen and Manquillo with Sterling moved to the right flank. With 19 minutes to go Coutinho unselfishly teed up Borini who was thwarted by Bogdan's finger tip save. Former Reds midfielder Jay Spearing entered proceedings in place of Mills as Bolton looked to hold out for a replay. Spearing was lucky to get away with blocking off Henderson in the box as he tried to latch on to Lallan's return pass. Liverpool produced a late flourish with Borini heading just wide and Henderson volleying over before Lucas' 25-yarder was kept out by Bogdan. There was no way through.

The Bolton News

SYLVESTER Stallone has been filming in Bolton this week – perhaps he should stick around for the replay and pick up a few pointers? Rocky Balboa himself would have been proud to absorb Liverpool's punishing blows at Anfield, yet still come out swinging punches the way that Wanderers did on Saturday night. And just like his epic cinema battles with Apollo Creed, there might just be a happy ending to the story for this set of underdogs. On a weekend of cup shocks it didn't quite measure on the Richter Scale like Bradford City, Cambridge United or Middlesbrough but to folk in these parts who have been desperate for a night like this, this feeling was priceless. Four short months ago we had fan protests, a bitter divide between the club and the terraces and a fragmented team who were low on confidence and heading for League One. How times change. Liverpool will come to the Macron next week with a Capital One Cup semi-final against Chelsea in their legs, and perhaps even a thorough going over from Sam Allardyce's West Ham. Will they fancy it? Will they 'eck. It is hard to imagine Brendan Rodgers' side can be this wasteful with the ball again for 90 minutes, and truth be told the Reds had a few good chances to win it. Wanderers rode their luck at times and definitely got a helping hand from referee Kevin Friend as two second-half penalty appeals against Matt Mills and Jay Spearing were waved away. But just like Rocky, the Whites' resolve to keep on slugging meant they deserved their bit of good fortune and with the likes of Zach Clough and Craig Davies back on board for the replay, this script has a few more twists and turns yet. It seems churlish to pick out individuals on a night where team effort ruled, but Adam Bogdan's belligerence in goal was breathtaking at times. While most of Liverpool's first-half efforts were from distance and easily dealt with, they gradually pushed closer to the Wanderers goal before ending up camped in the penalty box. At that point the Hungarian international's class kicked in. His one-handed save from Fabio Borini in the second half was the highlight of a master-class of goalkeeping under pressure and his handling was as secure as anything seen in front of the Kop this season. Where this puts Bogdan is another matter. Few could suggest Andy Lonergan deserves to left out of the side but at some point, one out-of-contract keeper is going to be left disappointed. Lennon plans another round of talks with his keepers' representatives this week but he could have wished for no better shop window than this one if Bogdan is to leave in this transfer window. The keeper wasn't alone in keeping Liverpool at bay. Tim Ream has never looked better – reading the game immaculately as Joe Allen and Philippe Coutinho continually tried to slip passes in around him. Likewise Dorian Dervite, who has become Bolton's Mr Consistent this season and who seems even more at ease in a back three, produced a near-faultless display on the right side of the defensive trio. Toxteth-born midfielder Neil Danns played the second half with stomach cramp but still managed to fill in at right-back, centre-half and play the holding role while Josh Vela – a target of Liverpool before he even got on the first team scene with Bolton – revelled in the spotlight and will have caught the eye with his composure in the middle of the park. Lennon had stuck with a back three but brought Dean Moxey in for his first start since October 21 as a left-sided wing-back. The former Palace man's inclusion raised a few eyebrows pre-match but it allowed Ream to play his favoured centre-half role, adding an extra touch of pace to the defensive triumvirate. In an attacking sense Wanderers looked a little disjointed in the first half, rarely stringing half a dozen passes together in the Liverpool half. That did not stop them having the best opportunity of the first 45 minutes as Moxey's rocket of a left-footed shot arched narrowly wide of Simon Mignolet's right-hand post. Things improved after half time as Eidur Gudjohnsen and Emile Heskey started to find each other more often. Had Gudjohnsen been at his clinical best then the game could have been won – the Iclander snatching at a couple of chances. As the game wore on Liverpool pushed the Whites further back, the defending become more and more frantic with each passing minute. Kevin Friend has never seemed more aptly named as he rejected a penalty claim against Mills for a trip on Lazar Markovic. Already on a caution, the centre-half would have surely walked had a foul been given. Never before has the digital clock on the corner of the Kop ticked so slowly as it did in the final 10 minutes of the game. Lennon had already had to withdraw Emile Heskey, who had run his race, for youngster Conor Wilkinson. But when Moxey went down with cramp and Mills caught a Coutinho shot in the unmentionables, he was forced to get creative. Jay Spearing helped steady the nerves on his return to Anfield – although he too had to survive a late penalty shout – and David Wheeler headed anything that moved in the final few minutes. When Borini headed wide in the final few minutes you sensed Liverpool had thrown their best at Wanderers and were not going to break through. It was a bit like the scene in Rocky IV when a shattered Ivan Drago, sitting hunched on his stool and telling his Russian trainer of Balboa: “He’s not human, he’s like a piece of iron.” When the final whistle sounded, Wanderers' players walked over to the Anfield Road end to receive their deserved adulation, just as Bruce Rioch's men had done in 1993. Bruised, battered, and out on their feet – but this team deserve a sequel.

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Brilliant Bogdan produces heroics to earn Bolton a replay

Bolton Wanderers, winners of an FA Cup replay here 22 years ago, will have the opportunity on their own turf to add another unlikely story to a fourth round of upsets.

Reborn under Neil Lennon, the Championship side resisted with resolve, although Liverpool argued that the referee was generous to the underdog, notably in failing to send off Matt Mills early in the second half for what they felt was a "last-man" foul and in dismissing Jordan Henderson's appeals for a penalty in the final 10 minutes when Jay Spearing, once a Liverpool player, barged him over.

Brendan Rodgers was prepared to excuse Spearing but was adamant that Mills, already booked, should have gone after halting Lazar Markovic's run just outside the box, when he clearly impeded the Serb. Kevin Friend did not even award a free-kick.

"Matt Mills should have been sent off, either for a second yellow or a straight red as the last man," the Liverpoolmanager said. "Bolton defended well but against 10 men for the last 35 minutes we would have fancied our chances. We did everything but score."

There was no fairytale return for 37-year-old Emile Heskey, almost 11 years after he scored the last of his 27 goals at Anfield. But Bolton found a hero in goalkeeper Adam Bogdan, the 27-year-old Hungarian who was a model of composure under pressure, and pulled off some fine saves, keeping out a shot from Lucas Leiva with the last kick of the match. Lennon was delighted. "Liverpool played very well but we showed resolve and created a few chances of our own," he said. "Adam was fantastic."

All week, veterans of the class of '93, the side from the third tier that pulled off a 2-0 win in a third-round replay, had been recalling the "white hot spirit" of Bruce Rioch's giantkillers.

Respect was evident in the team Rodgers put out, mindful of the task that lies ahead in the League Cup semi-final against Chelsea on Tuesday. He made five changes, with Steven Gerrard not involved, but there were starting places for Philippe Coutinho, Raheem Sterling and Adam Lallana.

Heskey's involvement as part of a veteran front two alongside Eidur Gudjohnsen ended 10 minutes into the second half. The Kop showed its appreciation, chanting his name.

Bogdan beat away Markovic's venomous strike, Javier Manquillo missing a chance from the follow-up. Then he kept out Fabio Borini, pushing wide a shot from the edge of the box, before having the final word with his stoppage-time stop from Lucas.

Liverpool (3-4-3) Mignolet; Johnson, Can, Sakho; Manquillo (Borini 68), Henderson, Allen (Lucas 67), Enrique (Markovic h-t); Lallana, Sterling, Coutinho. Bolton (4-1-3-2) Bogdan; Dervite, Mills (Spearing 73), Ream, Moxey (Wheater 83); Danns; Feeney, Vela, Pratley; Heskey (Wilkinson 56), Gudjohnsen.

Referee: Kevin Friend
Man of the match: Bogdan (Bolton)
Match rating: 8/10



Bogdan sets the standard to defy Liverpool

Liverpool 0
Bolton Wanderers 0
Att: 43,847

There would be no goal and no victory for Emile Heskey on his return to Anfield but there was a reward. The veteran striker gathered himself to lead the line for Bolton for almost an hour as they, 16th in the Championship, deservedly earned an FA Cup replay against his former club.

On a day of seismic upsets Liverpool survived but this was a frustration for them as the quickening momentum of their season stalled. It is also another fixture to navigate in their heavy schedule but Bolton, with goalkeeper Adam Bogdan outstanding but not over-worked, deserved another tilt at giantkilling. It will be a demanding replay forLiverpool.

The final FA Cup tie of the day unfolded as everyone was still attempting to digest - admittedly inside this arena it was to merely gloat over - the earlier events at Stamford Bridge and the Etihad Stadium.

An opportunity suddenly opened up for Liverpool, surely, to progress deep into this competition while for Bolton there was the encouragement of seeing what had proceeded them. Not that they needed it. Here was a chance for a club that had remained in the Premier League for so long and is only now beginning to recover under their new manager Neil Lennon, who had lost only once in 12 matches going into this tie.

Bolton brimmed with confidence and they pushed on, eagerly claiming possession time and again as they hustledLiverpool out of their stride before the home side attempted to reassert themselves. Jordan Henderson's half-volley was pushed away by Adam Bogdan before Raheem Sterling was hauled down by Matt Mills, who was cautioned.

Soon after and Josh Vela did the same - bringing down Joe Allen - as Liverpool began to gain control with the pace of Sterling a constant, twisting threat. It was a storm that was weathered, just, while Bolton, with Heskey and Eidur Gudjohnsen in attack - combined age 73, combined clubs 19, combined goals 311 - had to pick their moments. Gudjohnsen almost provided one as he tricked his way into the area before stumbling under a clumsy challenge. Was it a penalty? There was no appeal.

Bolton's 4,000 travelling fans drew further encouragement - especially after the ball fell to Dean Moxey on the edge of the penalty area, from a half-cleared free-kick, and his fierce, first-time shot then swerved narrowly wide.

For Liverpool Adam Lallana was crowded out from close range after he latched onto Javier Manquillo's header and Bogdan held a drive from Glen Johnson. The goalkeeper then easily held a Lallana effort, also from distance.

Liverpool - with Steven Gerrard rested from the squad - were labouring. By now the Bolton defence had settled and Sterling appeared isolated as aimless long balls were aimed in his direction. Or almost in his direction.

The pressing of Liverpool's Capital One Cup semi-final draw against Chelsea was absent and they struggled to breakthrough.

On half-time Simon Mignolet did well to run from goal and chest down a through ball aimed at Gudjohnsen - but then dallied and was almost caught by the striker. In truth, though, chances had been at a premium, with Liverpoolunable to break down their well-organised opponents for whom Liam Feeney had been a dangerous outlet down the right.

The woeful Jose Enrique was withdrawn at half-time as Brendan Rodgers tried to inject a bit more impetus and an early Sterling shot was charged down as he jinked into the area. Enrique's replacement, Lazar Markovic, then ran onto Henderson's raking pass, pushed the ball past Mills and went down, caught by the defender's trailing leg. No red card. There could - should - have been one, however.

Soon after and Philippe Coutinho threaded the ball to Sterling who, through on goal, tried to lift it over Bogdan - only for the goalkeeper to block.

The ball rebounded off his face.

Heskey, whose game had run its course, departed to a standing ovation as Bolton attempted to stem the rising tide of Liverpool attacks.

Bogdan parried superbly from Coutinho and then Manquillo screwed the rebound wide as the goal beckoned. But then Bolton hit back as an opportunity opened up for Gudjohnsen - from Tim Ream's low cross - but he sidefooted wide. If that was a halfchance then a full-blown one then fell his way as Vela exchanged passes and cut the back - only for Gudjohnsen to hook the ball over.

The game, finally, was beginning to open up, become stretched. This time it was Coutinho slipping a pass to substitute Fabio Borini. He tried, with too much precision, not enough power, to curl it around Bogdan who pushed it away for a corner.

Henderson was barged into by Jay Spearing - on as a substitute against his former club - but again the referee Kevin Friend waved away the penalty appeals. By now Bolton were pinned back - with Borini heading narrowly wide in injury-time - but they held on.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

Liverpool lack the guile to break down Bolton

LIVERPOOL 0

BOLTON WANDERERS 0

"IF HESKEY scores we're on the pitch," the Bolton fans had threatened. That was asking for a miracle too far, but this game ensured the FA Cup's day of days didn't just peter out.

Bolton took Liverpool to a replay, even if it would be exaggerating to say they took them to the brink. The excellence of Neil Lennon's side was in defending and midfield hustling. It's not that they lacked attacking ambition, just that when their moments came to win this tie, Eidur Gudjohnsen twice couldn't direct efforts on target having found space with his timeless intelligence.

Those chances came midway through the second half. By the end of it Bolton were scratching and clawing for life under a sustained Liverpool assault, but fine saves from Adam Bogdan, from a Lucas drive and Fabio Borini curler, ensured there would be no late winner in front of the Kop. Borini also missed with a header in stoppage time, from Jordan Henderson's cross, and Kevin Friend, the referee, played his part declining to give a marginal decision Liverpool's way when Jordan Henderson demanded a penalty after going down under a Jay Spearing nudge.

Bogdan was one of Bolton's heroes, the calm but combative Tim Ream another. Neil Danns, tireless in the middle of the pitch, was another Trojan as Phil Gartside, Bolton's chairm an, winced and grimaced in the directors box throughout the closing minutes and celebrated the prospect of a lucrative home replay.

Since taking over in October, Lennon is unbeaten at the Macron stadium and he observed that a replay three or four days before the next Mersey derby "is probably a game Brendan [Rodgers] doesn't need." Rodgers, though, was sanguine. "We're still in the hat, it's a lovely pitch at Bolton, which will be good for us. We have many players coming back from injury and it will be an opportunity for them," he said.

The speed of Raheem Sterling, Philippe Coutinho and Lazar Markovic seemed likely to be decisive, but Lennon's back three of Dorian Dervite, Matt Mills and Ream were terrific, holding their ground and nerve. Further upfield, it wasn't Emile Heskey, 37, or Gudjohnsen, 36, who emerged heroic, but Lennon's other thirtysomething, Danns, who crisscrossed the pitch in shuttle runs, shutting down Liverpool's midfield.

Heskey proved good at getting his oil drum chest in front of Emre Can or Glen Johnson to win the first ball, but neither Gudjohnsen nor Darren Pratley could get close enough to collect his flick-ons and lay-offs.

Earlier Mills was booked for manhandling Sterling and Josh Vela for rugby tackling Joe Allen, but Bolton's discipline just about held.

Heskey retired to acclaim, from Bolton's boisterous support and also from the home fans, after 55 honest and earnest minutes and his teammates did the rest to keep Liverpool at bay.

Star man: Tim Ream (Bolton) Yellow cards: Bolton: Mills, Vela, Dervite, Pratley Referee: K Friend Attendance: 43,847 Liverpool: Mignolet 6, Johnson 6, Can 7, Sakho 6, Manquillo 6 (Borini 68min, 6), Henderson 6, Allen 5 (Lucas 67min, 6), Enrique 5 (Markovic h-t, 7), Lallana 5, Sterling 5, Coutinho 7 Bolton: Bogdan 8, Dervite 7, Mills 6 (Spearing 73min, 6), Ream 8, Feeney 6, Danns 7, Pratley 6, Vela 6, Moxey 7 (Wheater 83min, 6), Gudjohnsen 6, Heskey 6 (Wilkinson 56min, 6)

TheObserver

Bogdan holds firm to force Liverpool into Bolton replay

It was difficult to gauge which Ulsterman felt more relieved as Neil Lennon and Brendan Rodgers embraced on the final whistle. The Bolton Wanderers manager at holding out for a replay or his Liverpool counterpart for avoiding a night of the long knives in the FA Cup? The ordeal for the Premier League's heavyweights is not over yet.

Liverpool "did everything but put the ball in the net" according to Rodgers and he could hold Adam Bogdan largely responsible. Bolton's goalkeeper was in commanding form and produced inspired saves from Philippe Coutinho and Fabio Borini, although Liverpool rarely threatened to take control of the tie until laying siege to Bogdan's goal in the closing minutes.

Rodgers' insistence that "we were excellent creative-wise" and that he embraced the addition of a replay to an already crowded fixture list sounded a little far-fetched. Liverpool did produce 24 shots but there was a carelessness about their play that was absent from the Capital One Cup semi-final against Chelsea. But this, in fairness, was a day for Premier League managers to simply find comfort in staying in the FA Cup. There was no camouflaging Phil Gartside's feelings about a second chance, however, the Bolton chairman punching the air repeatedly on the final whistle.

"My heart was in my mouth in the last 10 minutes when we were running on fumes," said Lennon. "People will look at the score and say Liverpool couldn't have played well but they did play well and we were resolute, disciplined and had a couple of chances of our own. To come away from here with a replay, having watched Liverpool play exceptionally well against Chelsea on Tuesday, is more than I could have asked for."

Liverpool must have felt the competition was opening up for them as the results came through from Stamford Bridge, the Etihad Stadium, White Hart Lane and St Mary's before kick-off but it is not time to measure for new suits yet. Bolton have an impressive FA Cup record against the Anfield club, winning six of eight ties before this latest meeting, and chants of "Super John McGinlay" confirmed memories of their last Cup win in 1993 will not be forgotten.

Lennon's team provided further encouragement with a strong, confident opening in which their veteran strike partnership of Eidur Gudjohnsen and Emile Heskey, afforded a warm reception on his Anfield return, showed that aerial strength, awareness of space and a good touch has not deserted them.

Liverpool's tireless midfield gradually restricted Bolton's supply line, however, and enabled the home side to take control without seriously testing Bogdan in the first half. Jordan Henderson, Coutinho and Glen Johnson all forced the keeper into routine saves from distance but, aside from the persistent threat offered by Raheem Sterling, the home side rarely got behind Bolton's three-man central defence.

Lennon said: "I told the players at half-time 'make sure we are in the draw'. We curtailed Liverpool to long-range shots in the first half but we knew the wave would come. Then you need your defence and keeper to play well."

Liverpool's wave rolled in eventually and might have arrived sooner had Matt Mills, booked for hauling down Sterling in the first half, received a second yellow card or even a straight red for clipping the substitute Lazar Markovic as he latched on to Henderson's through ball early in the second half. The referee, Kevin Friend, waved play on, to the undisguised fury of Rodgers. "He should have been sent off and that would have changed the game," said theLiverpool manager, who denied his team should have had a late penalty when Jay Spearing nudged Henderson in the back. "It's either a second yellow or a red as the last man."

Bogdan's first impressive save came from Coutinho's low shot towards the bottom corner of the Kop goal, a strong left hand diverting the ball out to Javier Manquillo who produced a dreadful finish from the rebound. Rodgers then introduced Borini at the apex of Liverpool's attack, a decision that resulted in Sterling being switched to right midfield and almost paid immediate dividends when Coutinho found the Italian unmarked inside the area. Borini shot first time towards the far corner of the Kop goal only for Bogdan to make a fine fingertip save. The striker, Henderson and Lucas Leiva all went close in the closing stages but found no way through.

Lennon revealed Bolton intend to open talks this week on a new contract for Bogdan, whose current deal expires in the summer, but there were no encouraging noises from Rodgers towards Mario Balotelli, who failed to make the 18-man squad for this tie.

"We spoke for an hour or so yesterday," said Rodgers. "It's difficult for him. He knows the level of this team now, the pressing and the aggression that is required. If you can't do that then you are not going to be part of what this team is trying to achieve. If you want to contribute you have to be 'at it' every day in training."

LIVERPOOL Mignolet; Johnson, Can, Sakho; Manquillo (Borini 68), Henderson, Allen (Lucas 67), Jose Enrique (Markovic ht); Lallana, Coutinho; Sterling Subs not used Ward, Lovren, Lambert, Rossiter

BOLTON Bogdan; Dervite, Mills (Spearing 73), Ream; Feeney, Danns, Vela, Moxey (Wheater 83); Pratley; Heskey (Wilkinson 56), Gudjohnsen

Subs not used Lonergan, McNaughton, Hall, Trotter

Anfield 43,847

Game rating 6/10 Referee Kevin Friend

Date: 24 January 2015 Opposition: Bolton Wanderers Competition: FA Cup	Mail	Sunday Times	Sun Telegraph	Telegraph		24 January 2015
	Echo	Observer	Times	Mirror		
	BBC	Sun Independent	Guardian	Bolton News		
			BBC Bolton produced an exceptional defensive display to deny Liverpool and earn an FA Cup fourth-round replay. The Championship side had goalkeeper Adam Bogdan to thank for two great saves from Philippe Coutinho and Fabio Borini, and a block to prevent Raheem Sterling from scoring. Reds had a penalty appeal turned down when Jordan Henderson fell in the box after Jay Spearing's challenge. Dean Moxey had Bolton's best effort with a rasping first-half half-volley. The Trotters' veteran striker Eidur Gudjohnsen should have done better with the two chances that came his way, but on a day when he was partnered with Emile Heskey up front - with a combined age of 73 - the focus was always going to be on how Bolton would cope at the back. As it happens, the defence was magnificent. A side that looked like Championship relegation certainties in early October have been revived under manager Neil Lennon and they once again displayed this new-found resilience at Anfield. Hungarian goalkeeper Bogdan, who has been with the club since 2007, led by example with several excellent saves. He rushed off his line to prevent Sterling from scoring, before making two good saves to deny midfielder Philippe Coutinho and substitute striker Fabio Borini. And right at the death, he was in the right position to prevent Lucas Leiva's fierce drive from bursting the net. Despite failing to score, the Reds looked dangerous throughout, and manager Brendan Rodgers will have been pleased the way his players managed to find gaps in what was almost a water-tight Bolton backline. But he was clearly not impressed with two contentious refereeing decisions made by the man in black, Kevin Friend. The first was early after the restart when defender Matt Mills appeared to trip Lazar Markovic on the edge of the area. Friend waved away appeals and then repeated the gesture when Henderson was nudged to the ground by substitute and former Red, Spearing. Luck was not on the side of Rodgers's side today, but unlike fellow past winners Chelsea, Manchester City and Tottenham they live to fight another day in the FA Cup. A similar display at the Macron Stadium should see them through to the fifth round.			

Date: 24 January 2015

Opposition: Bolton Wanderers

Competition: FA Cup

Mail	Sunday Times	Sun Telegraph	Telegraph
Echo	Observer	Times	Mirror
BBC	Sun Independent	Guardian	Bolton News

BBC

Full time Match ends, Liverpool 0, Bolton Wanderers 0.

90:00+4:27Full time Second Half ends, Liverpool 0, Bolton Wanderers 0.

90:00+3:49 Attempt saved. Lucas Leiva (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Lazar Markovic.

90:00+2:10 Attempt missed. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is high and wide to the right. Assisted by Adam Lallana.

90:00+0:16 Attempt missed. Fabio Borini (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the right. Assisted by Jordan Henderson with a cross following a set piece situation.

89:43 Fabio Borini (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.

89:43 Foul by Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers.

86:55 Attempt missed. Adam Lallana (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is just a bit too high. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho with a cross.

85:51 Attempt blocked. Lazar Markovic (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.

85:23 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Neil Danns.

84:50 Attempt saved. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the top centre of the goal.

84:18Booking Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

84:13 Glen Johnson (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.

84:13 Foul by Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers.

82:50Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Bolton Wanderers. David Wheeler replaces Dean Moxey.

81:38 Attempt missed. Lucas Leiva (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the left. Assisted by Lazar Markovic.

77:50 Fabio Borini (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.

77:50 Foul by Neil Danns (Bolton Wanderers.

76:42 Corner, Bolton Wanderers. Conceded by Mamadou Sakho.

76:04 Foul by Fabio Borini (Liverpool.

76:04 Conor Wilkinson (Bolton Wanderers wins a free kick in the defensive half.

75:28 Adam Lallana (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.

75:28 Foul by Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers.

72:55Booking Dorian Dervite (Bolton Wanderers is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

72:41 Adam Lallana (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

72:41 Foul by Dorian Dervite (Bolton Wanderers.

72:05Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Bolton Wanderers. Jay Spearing replaces Matt Mills.

71:23 Foul by Lazar Markovic (Liverpool.

71:23 Neil Danns (Bolton Wanderers wins a free kick in the defensive half.

70:35 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Adam Bogdan.

70:12 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Adam Bogdan.

70:10 Attempt saved. Fabio Borini (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.

68:30 Attempt blocked. Glen Johnson (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked.

68:01 Fabio Borini (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

68:01 Foul by Dorian Dervite (Bolton Wanderers.

67:07Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Liverpool. Fabio Borini replaces Javier Manquillo.

66:43Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Liverpool. Lucas Leiva replaces Joe Allen.

65:59 Attempt blocked. Joe Allen (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.

65:14 Mamadou Sakho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

65:14 Foul by Conor Wilkinson (Bolton Wanderers.

63:56 Attempt missed. Eidur Gudjohnsen (Bolton Wanderers left footed shot from the centre of the box is too high.

63:21 Attempt blocked. Conor Wilkinson (Bolton Wanderers right footed shot from the right side of the six yard box is blocked. Assisted by Liam Feeney with a cross.

61:02 Attempt missed. Eidur Gudjohnsen (Bolton Wanderers right footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the right. Assisted by Tim Ream with a cross.

58:00 Attempt missed. Javier Manquillo (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the left.

57:54 Attempt saved. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Raheem Sterling.

57:04 Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked.

57:03 Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Jordan Henderson with a cross.

56:33 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Dorian Dervite.

56:31 Attempt blocked. Raheem Sterling (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Joe Allen.

55:49Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Bolton Wanderers. Conor Wilkinson replaces Emile Heskey.

53:18 Attempt saved. Raheem Sterling (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho with a through ball.

51:31 Attempt missed. Eidur Gudjohnsen (Bolton Wanderers right footed shot from outside the box is too high from a direct free kick.

50:10 Foul by Emre Can (Liverpool.

50:10 Emile Heskey (Bolton Wanderers wins a free kick in the attacking half.

48:54 Raheem Sterling (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

48:54 Foul by Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers.

48:23 Foul by Adam Lallana (Liverpool.

48:23 Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers wins a free kick on the left wing.

47:14 Javier Manquillo (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

47:14 Foul by Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers.

45:23 Attempt blocked. Raheem Sterling (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.

45:00 Second Half begins Liverpool 0, Bolton Wanderers 0.

45:00Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Liverpool. Lazar Markovic replaces José Enrique.

45:00+1:01Half time First Half ends, Liverpool 0, Bolton Wanderers 0.

45:00+0:16 Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Joe Allen.

44:18 José Enrique (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

44:18 Foul by Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers.

42:22 Foul by Glen Johnson (Liverpool.

42:22 Neil Danns (Bolton Wanderers wins a free kick in the defensive half.

36:38 Jordan Henderson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

36:38 Foul by Emile Heskey (Bolton Wanderers.

36:17 Attempt saved. Adam Lallana (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the top centre of the goal. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.

34:23 Attempt saved. Glen Johnson (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner.

32:21 Attempt missed. Dean Moxey (Bolton Wanderers left footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left following a set piece situation.

31:44 Foul by Joe Allen (Liverpool.

31:44 Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers wins a free kick in the attacking half.

30:18 Attempt blocked. Raheem Sterling (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.

29:38 Delay over. They are ready to continue.

29:32 Delay in match Eidur Gudjohnsen (Bolton Wanderers because of an injury.

25:08 Attempt missed. Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers header from the centre of the box is too high. Assisted by Dean Moxey with a cross following a corner.

24:37 Corner, Bolton Wanderers. Conceded by Emre Can.

19:13 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Liam Feeney.

17:47 Foul by Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool.

17:47 Neil Danns (Bolton Wanderers wins a free kick in the defensive half.

17:15 Attempt saved. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Joe Allen.

16:19Booking Josh Vela (Bolton Wanderers is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

16:14 Joe Allen (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.

16:14 Foul by Josh Vela (Bolton Wanderers.

14:55 Offside, Bolton Wanderers. Emile Heskey tries a through ball, but Eidur Gudjohnsen is caught offside.

13:29 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Liam Feeney.

12:10Booking Matt Mills (Bolton Wanderers is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

11:59 Raheem Sterling (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

11:59 Foul by Matt Mills (Bolton Wanderers.

11:17 Attempt saved. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner.

11:07 Attempt blocked. Adam Lallana (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.

10:35 Attempt missed. Matt Mills (Bolton Wanderers right footed shot from outside the box misses to the left. Assisted by Emile Heskey.

9:28 Corner, Bolton Wanderers. Conceded by Mamadou Sakho.

6:42 Mamadou Sakho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

6:42 Foul by Eidur Gudjohnsen (Bolton Wanderers.

5:08 Joe Allen (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

5:08 Foul by Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers.

4:00 Corner, Bolton Wanderers. Conceded by Javier Manquillo.

1:07 Foul by Jordan Henderson (Liverpool.

1:07 Darren Pratley (Bolton Wanderers wins a free kick in the attacking half.

0:14 Foul by Javier Manquillo (Liverpool.

0:14 Tim Ream (Bolton Wanderers wins a free kick in the defensive half.

0:00 First Half begins.

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