Opposition: West Bromwich Albion

Competition: League

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13 December 2015

THE TIMES

Dishonours even in the managerial fight club

Liverpool 2 Henderson 21, Origi 90 West Brom 2 Dawson 30, Olsson 73

Referee: C Pawson Attendance: 44,147

Those who bemoan the decline of Sunday League football would have revelled in what took place at Anfield yesterday. If a high-octane fixture featuring slapstick defending at set pieces, tackles bordering on illegality resulting in injury and an increasingly raucous atmosphere were not enough to evoke the amateur game, then the sight of two track-suited managers confronting one another for the duration of a pulsating 2-2 draw ensured it was brought to mind throughout. The 98-minute clash between Jurgen Klopp versus Tony Pulis was at least as compelling as the football. From goading to finger-jabbing and furious rows to a handshake snub, this was a conflict that was made inevitable by a combination of personality and incident. It may not yet have the mutual antipathy of Mourinho v Benitez or the longevity of Wenger v Ferguson, but in its own right Klopp v Pulis had more than enough acrimony to instantaneously turn it into one of the Premier League's most incendiary managerial rivalries.

What went on in managerial fight school, though, remained in managerial fight school -- at least apart from the succession of incidents between them which took place in full view of a 44,000 crowd -- with neither combatant willing to go into detail about their very public fall-out afterwards. Nor were they willing to criticise one another, with Klopp insisting he could not remember what had caused the antagonism with Pulis and his adversary putting it down to nothing more than both being "animated" and "enthusiastic".

Whatever the trigger -- and there were several potential catalysts during a controversial affair -- the bust-up was sufficient for Klopp to turn his back on Pulis after the final whistle and then refuse to shake hands with Mark O'Connor, the West Bromwich Albion coach, only to relent with visible reluctance when the latter pursued him on to the pitch. "He has got to do what he has got to do. I am more disappointed about the way they came back to make it 2-2," Pulis said. "The great thing about this league is irrespective of all the money, power and talent clubs like Liverpool have, smaller clubs will come here and have a go and that is what we have done today." Without spelling it out, Klopp's main gripe seemed to be that West Brom had, in his opinion, continually blurred the lines between physicality and foul play. One incident in particular prompted an especially vociferous confrontation with Pulis when Dejan Lovren was carried off after a heavy challenge by Craig Gardner in the 69th minute. The defender later left Anfield on crutches having had stitches inserted in a knee wound with the full extent of his injury not expected to be discovered until tonight. Although Klopp tried to play down his own anger at Gardner's tackle, his touchline antics had already betrayed his feelings. Like all relationships, the one between Pulis and Klopp was shaped by events in a game that would have tested even the least volatile of managers. At first, everything seemed routine with Liverpoolfaced with the familiar challenge of having to break down opponents unwilling to afford them the kind of space that they need to thrive in. Jordan Henderson's first goal of the season -- a well taken finish after an equally well-timed run allowed him to take advantage of Adam Lallana's headed knockdown from Philippe Coutinho's cross -- temporarily changed that dynamic but only until Simon Mignolet got in on the Sunday League act with his latest failure to do the basics.

It was a year ago today that the Liverpool goalkeeper was famously dropped by Brendan Rodgers at Old Trafford but the weaknesses that prompted his omission on that occasion remain as evident now as they were then. In attempting to come for Chris Brunt's corner, Mignolet was at least following Klopp's orders but his execution was pitiful, with a flap at the ball giving Craig Dawson an opportunity to score in front of the Kop that the defender accepted. The error means no other Premier League player has made more mistakes that have led directly to a goal than Mignolet in the past three seasons. Again, Klopp opted for diplomacy. "I said to Simon at half-time, if somebody says it was your fault, it is not true, it is my fault. I want a keeper who comes out and tries for everything."

What Klopp wants is one thing, what Liverpool need is a better goalkeeper. Mignolet was beaten again before the interval only for Jonas Olsson's header from Gardner's free-kick to be belatedly ruled out for offside after a goal had initially been awarded by Craig Pawson, the referee. While the decision was ultimately the right one with as many as four visiting players having strayed offside, how it was arrived at caused confusion and angered Pulis.

"The big disappointment is the linesman (Richard West) never put his flag up," Pulis said. "They tell me he is offside so why he hasn't put his flag up and dragged the referee 50 yards across to talk to him; that is disappointing. We will speak to the officials on Monday to find out why that is. If the flag goes up at the time, we accept everything." The next time Olsson hit the back of the net, with a header from another Brunt corner, there was to be no reprieve for Liverpool, who were left trailing having conceded from both of West Brom's efforts on target. They managed to salvage a point in the fifth of eight minutes added on for Lovren's injury when a shot from Divock Origi, the substitute, wrongfooted Boaz Myhill, the West Brom goalkeeper, to bring the scores level. Klopp duly celebrated wildly in front of his new adversary. "It is his dugout," Pulis said.

The Liverpool manager then marched his players back on to the pitch to show gratitude to the club's fans as his attempts to arouse Anfield from its slumbers continue. "It was only one point but it felt like three," Klopp said. Given the circumstances and the rivalry that had been established with his opposite

number, he could hardly have played things down. RATINGS

Liverpool (4-3-2-1): S Mignolet 4 -- N Clyne 6, M Skrtel 7, D Lovren 6 (sub: D Origi 79), A Moreno 6 -- J Henderson 7, E Can 6, J Milner 6 -- A Lallana 7 (sub: R Firmino 86), P Coutinho 6 (sub: J Ibe 71) -- C Benteke 6. Substitutes not used: A Bogdan, K Toure, L Leiva, J Allen.

West Bromwich Albion (4-1-4-1): B Myhill 6 -- C Dawson 6, G McCauley 7, J Olsson 7, C Brunt 6 -- J Evans 7 -- C Gardner 6, D Fletcher 6, J Morrison 5, J McLean 6 -- S Rondon 5 (sub: R Lambert 90). Substitutes not used: A Lindegaard, J Chester, S Gnabry, C McManaman, S Berahino, V Anichebe.

theguardian

Divock Origi's late goal spares Liverpool home defeat by West Bromwich

The manic reaction would not have looked out of place in the Sunday amateur leagues. Jürgen Klopp responded to Divock Origi's 95th minute equaliser by beating his chest in front of the West Bromwich Albion bench, eyeballing Tony Pulis and leading Liverpool's players in triumphant applause to the Kop. "Sometimes it takes more than a few seconds to cool down," he explained. With the heartbeat slowed, the reality of Liverpool's weaknesses in defence will not have escaped their overexuberant manager.

Klopp's refusal to shake hands with Pulis after the final whistle and wild celebration of a point salvaged at home in stoppage time reflected a tense, ugly encounter at Anfield. Animosity built between the Liverpool manager and the Albion bench from the moment Dejan Lovren was taken off on a stretcher as a consequence of Craig Gardner's dangerous challenge. It erupted spectacularly when the substitute Origi spared Liverpool a second successive Premier Leaguedefeat with a deflected goal and Klopp revelled in the visitors' misfortune. Klopp said: "We conceded from two set pieces. I don't know how many of our goals are from set pieces but it feels like 98%. They only play long balls and only want set plays. Maybe the crowd were disappointed but they didn't show it. It was only one point but it felt like three, an explosion. It was the best atmosphere in my time in England, absolutely great and I wanted to say thank you. Sometimes a point deserved in the right way is more important for the development of the style of play against a team like this. To stay in the game, that is a big moment in football. I really enjoyed this game, I enjoyed the atmosphere with my whole body."

Klopp's assessment glossed over Liverpool's lack of creativity against a towering Albion defence and the instability that Simon Mignolet's goalkeeping continues to spread throughout his back-line. The German coach had warned Liverpool of Albion's strength at set pieces but two Chris Brunt corners yielded goals for Craig Dawson and Jonas Olsson, after Jordan Henderson had given the home side a merited lead, while Olsson had another effort disallowed for offside from Gardner's free-kick.

Liverpool controlled the early stages, their willingness to mix the direct approach with the intricate work of Philippe Coutinho and Adam Lallana paying dividends. Coutinho played a quick, diagonal cross into the penalty area where Lallana of all people leapt above Brunt to head into the path of the incoming Henderson. The Liverpool captain marked his first league start since August with a sweeping finish beyond Boaz Myhill from close range. Pulis would have appreciated the style of the breakthrough had he not been on the receiving end.

Albion levelled when Brunt swept an inviting corner to the back of the six-yard box. Mignolet came for the cross but fatally did not collect, waving at thin air as the ball struck Salomón Rondón and Nathanial Clyne and dropped for Dawson to convert beyond the despairing challenge of James Milner. Klopp claimed: "I said to Simon at half-time: 'If somebody says it was your fault, it is not true, it is my fault. I want a keeper who comes out and tries for everything.'"

The Belgium keeper almost gifted Pulis's team a second goal when attempting to keep a Dawson cross in play and finding only James McClean. He survived on that occasion and when Olsson volleyed home from Gardner's free-kick, he was eventually given offside by an assistant referee who did not raise his flag. The second half developed into an increasingly bruising encounter that left Klopp raging at the Albion bench when Lovren was injured by a sickening tackle from Gardner. The midfielder won the ball in a 50-50 with the Croatian defender but followed through with a studs-first challenge that buckled Lovren's knee. Liverpool's central defender was carried off with his knee in a brace and an oxygen mask on his face. Gardner was not booked.

Moments earlier Olsson had given the visitors the lead with a glancing header from Brunt's corner to the near-post. Myhill saved well from Lallana and the substitute Jordon lbe went close as Liverpool pressed for an equaliser that arrived five minutes into eight minutes of stoppage time. Origi had been summoned from the bench when Lovren departed and Klopp's boldness was rewarded as the striker's shot deflected off Gareth McAuley and sailed beyond the wrong-footed Myhill. Cue bedlam in the technical area.

"He has got to do what he has got to do," was Pulis's diplomatic take on the finale. "I am more disappointed about the way they came back to make it 2-2. The great thing about this league is, irrespective of all the money, power and talent that clubs like Liverpool have, smaller clubs will come here and have a go and that is what we have done."

Man of the match Darren Fletcher (West Bromwich Albion)

Opposition: West Bromwich Albion

Competition: League

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The Hail

IT WAS ONLY A 2-2 DRAW! Klopp leads madcap celebration in front of Kop... for earning a point against West Brom

HE arrived in the press auditorium glugging on a bottle of water and trying to catch his breath. When he sat down, his mind was clearly racing as he tried to collect his thoughts.

Jurgen Klopp, kitted out in his red and black Liverpool tracksuit, looked as if he had just played in a frenzied encounter, rather than overseen operations from the sidelines, but, in many ways, he had done more than those on the pitch. Watching the German operate in his technical area is pure theatre and, against West Brom, he was at his most enthralling. From chief antagonist to strict headmaster to main cheerleader, Klopp assumed many roles to ensure Liverpool did not capsize.

True, he will not be to everyone's taste. Tony Pulis, certainly, will not be in any hurry to see him again soon after Klopp started beating his chest in front of him after Divock Origi's equaliser six minutes into added time. The pair had been at loggerheads all game before tempers eventually boiled over.

Plenty of others, meanwhile, will pour scorn on Klopp for lining up Liverpool's players in front of the Kop at the final whistle and making them bow repeatedly. This, remember, was a draw that movedLiverpool up to ninth place, not a seismic victory en route to a trophy.

But Klopp's actions were compelling and there's no doubt he made a difference. He transformed the mood of the crowd, lifted one last effort from his players and, in front of Fenway Sports Group president Mike Gordon, showed the Liverpool will no longer be bullied.

'It was a special atmosphere,' said Klopp. 'It was such a hard game. West Brom only play long balls and only want set plays. Maybe the crowd were disappointed but they didn't show it. It was only one point but it felt like three an explosion. 'It was the best atmosphere in my time in England, absolutely great and I wanted to say thank you. Sometimes a point earned in the right way is more important, for development and style of play against a team like this. I really enjoyed this game. I enjoyed the atmosphere with my whole body.' With the atmosphere having been muted at Anfield, Klopp had called on locals to make an intense noise but, though the welcome was initially hot, things rather fizzled out. West Brom had come to frustrate and bide their time for an opening.

Liverpool should have wrecked that plan in the 15th minute. When Emre Can hoisted a ball aimed for Christian Benteke, Gareth McAuley's headed clearance only went as far as Philippe Coutinho but he wasted a glorious opportunity, firing a half-volley over from 12 yards.

Soon, though, Coutinho would help make amends. Liverpool started to make angles in midfield, putting together five passes before the ball arrived at Coutinho's feet in the 22nd minute; he switched play with a diagonal cross, Adam Lallana headed it down and Jordan Henderson applied the finish. It was a huge moment for Liverpool's captain. The last few months have been filled with anxiety and frustration because of injury, so his celebration was an outpouring of emotion.

Getting in front against stubborn opposition was always going to be crucial Klopp's reaction said as much so imagine the manager's dismay, then, when Liverpool threw their advantage away.

Simon Mignolet was the subject of praise from Klopp 12 days ago and Liverpool have opened talks about extending his contract. But he continues to be a goalkeeper who is never far from making a mistake and his error changed the course of the contest.

When Chris Brunt hoisted in a corner from the right, Mignolet backpedalled, failed to take command of the situation and cannoned into Benteke, spilling the ball to Salomon Rondon before Craig Dawson smuggled the ball in from six yards. 'I said to Simon at half-time, if somebody says it was your fault, it is not true, it is my fault, 'said Klopp. 'I want a keeper who comes out and tries for everything.' From that point Liverpool lost their rhythm. They might have been behind on the stroke of halftime, when Jonas Olsson turned in a Craig Gardner's right-wing freekick, but West Brom celebrations were cut short by the officials.

Pulis went ballistic, as it was unclear whether it was the assistant or referee Craig Pawson who had made the decision, and it ensured a heated debate ensued down the tunnel when the first half came reached its conclusion.

West Brom's manager need not have worried. With the jitters spreading through Liverpool's defence, they always looked vulnerable from set-pieces and Olsson got his reward in the 73rd minute, glancing another Brunt corner into the top corner. Tempers erupted shortly after when Gardner thundered into a tackle and that seemed to fireLiverpool up. It certainly sparked something in their manager and he whipped up the crowd to an extent that there was no chance of them letting their side surrender with a whimper.

It paid off in the end when Origi, who had come to replace Dejan Lovren, slipped a tackle from Dawson before lifting the ball into the net, sparking pandemonium. By the end, however, Pulis was phlegnatic. 'I'm more disappointed about the way they came back to make it 2-2,' he said. 'The lads are resilient. The great thing about this league is irrespective of all the money, power, talent clubs like Liverpool have, smaller clubs will come here and have a go.'

The Daily Telegraph

Klopp bares teeth as Liverpool revival runs out of steam

Never has a home draw at Anfield been celebrated with such a mixture of rage, delight and exasperation. Having seen his side equalise in the sixth minute of injury time, Jurgen Klopp, Liverpool's manager, ignored the hand of Tony Pulis, exchanged (un)pleasantries with members of the visiting coaching staff, marched on to the pitch and insisted his players salute the Kop.

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They sheepishly obliged as their manager assumed the role of manic choreographer.

Divock Origi's deflected effort had just earned a 2-2 draw and Klopp was in tubthumping mood. He refused to elaborate on why beyond admitting that "this was not a friendly game" but, having seen Dejan Lovren seriously injured by Craig Gardner's tackle - the Croatian needed stitches and left on crutches - many were filling in the gaps.

It ensured a feisty fixture ended in further acrimony, Klopp suggesting that the manner of some draws can mean as much as a victory. In a more reflective moment he will consider that if he wants his side to turn the corner they will have to learn to defend one as their failure to deal with set-pieces again undermined their ambitions.

"It was only one point but it felt like three, an explosion," Klopp said. "It was the best atmosphere in my time in England, absolutely great, and I wanted to say thank you. Sometimes a point deserved in the right way is more important, for development. To stay in the game, that is a big moment. I really enjoyed this game, I enjoyed the atmosphere with my whole body."

Pulis witnessed that from the closest quarters, as Klopp's celebration of the equaliser was in full view of the visitors' bench. If the game concluded in confrontation, passive aggression was the tone 30 minutes later in the post-match briefing. "We had some words in the game. If you want to make a big story of this do with this what you want," Klopp said.

The clues were offered in his appraisal of West Brom's style of play. "They only play long balls and only want set plays," he said.

West Brom were on the verge of victory after Craig Dawson and Jonas Olsson overturned Jordan Henderson's 21st-minute opener, and it is possible that the sheer predictability of the game irked Klopp most.

There are times when you know the story before the narrator has uttered the first word. West Brom are coming to town armed with four centre-halves and a muscle man in attack - how will they lineup? Do not expect too many twists in this tale.

Klopp had warned his side to be patient in attack and avoid conceding daft free-kicks and corners. Liverpool diligently worked their way into the lead, only to gift two goals in the only circumstances you could imagine the visitors scoring. Pulis's decision to play four centre-halves was deceptive - in the early stages it was eight defenders with Salomon Rondon forming his own lonely hearts' club upfield. Jonny Evans has been reinvented as an anchorman, but for 30 minutes Liverpool were too fleet of foot, first to every loose ball and prone to the kind of long, diagonal ball when the opportunity arose which must have had Pulis nodding in approval. From one such move Liverpool took the lead.

Alberto Moreno picked out Adam Lallana, who headed invitingly into Henderson's

path. The captain volleyed first time to celebrate his first Anfield start since
August with a goal Klopp hoped would leave the visitors exposed.

It made what followed on the half-hour unforgivable from Liverpool's perspective. A corner from Chris Brunt was greeted with a flapping fist from Simon Mignolet, Rondon headed into danger and in the scramble Dawson

converted. Liverpool working hard to score, the opposition having to do very little to do so - this has been the case at Anfield for too long.

The Kop blamed Mignolet. Klopp defended the Belgian. "I said to Simon at halftime, 'If somebody says it was your fault, it is not true, it is my fault. I want a keeper who comes out and tries for everything'," Klopp said.

But for strange officiating, West Brom would have led on the stroke of half-time. Olsson was celebrating meeting Gardner's free-kick for 30 seconds until referee Craig Pawson was summoned by his assistant Richard West. They decided, correctly, that the West Brom defender had been offside when he met the cross. Why West failed to raise the flag needs further explanation. Pulis was livid, the Kop relieved.

Olsson would not be denied as he headed his side ahead after 72 minutes and Liverpool's toils looked in vain until Origi's hopeful strike was deflected by Gareth McAuley past Boaz Myhill.

Klopp's fuse was lit, but the An-field Premier League revival has stalled. How Liverpool needed 28 shots to score twice - and West Brom needed only four Jurgen Klopp's side missed out on victory against West Brom because they were alarmingly profligate in front of goal.

Liverpool struck 28 shots (left), their most in a Premier League game since an inspired Luis Suarez scored twice in a 4-1 victory over West Ham United in December 2013. By comparison, West Brom only had four shots (right) in the entire game yesterday yet still earned a point.

Opposition: West Bromwich Albion

Competition: League

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Klopp loses control in 'best moment' so far at Liverpool

It was in the sixth minute of injury time when the earth began to shake, causing the mood to swing diametrically to the opposite of what it was before here yesterday. Divock Origi's equaliser for Liverpool had taken an enormous deflection off Gareth McAuley and, knowing he was beaten, West Bromwich Albion's goalkeeper Boaz Myhill fell to his knees in acceptance. It was as though he had been speared through the throat.

Previously, Anfield had been a torment-filled forum; a place consumed by doubt and self-reproach. Suddenly, it was trembling to its foundations - not entirely due to the point gained but because of the Liverpool manager Jrgen Klopp's reaction. The German lost control of his senses, firstly moving towards visiting manager Tony Pulis, bellowing something at him. An argument had begun between the pair 20 minutes earlier when Martin Skrtel was barged into the Main Stand by Salomon Rondon, although Pulis later claimed Skrtel had been the aggressor. Klopp turned and let out an almighty roar, which could be heard from the press box above the din of the celebrations elsewhere around the ground. In thrashing his arms about furiously, Klopp must have felt like a conductor of the world's most prominent orchestra on its very last night. He wanted more than a draw, urging Liverpool forward, hoping that Anfield would follow him into war. Yet time had run out and at the final whistle he embraced his battered players, who saluted the Kop by holding hands and advancing on the famous stand. There surely cannot be a more dramatic way to finish a 2-2 draw at home to the 13th best team in the Premier League.

Klopp described the end as though he were a religious pastor at the scene of an awakening. He had calmed by then, but was still a bit carried away.

"I know it's only one point but it felt like three," he said. "This moment was an explosion, it's the best I've felt since I've been here.

"Sometimes a point deserved in the right way is more important: for development, the style of play against a team like this. To stay in the game, that is a big moment in football. I really enjoyed this game, I enjoyed the atmosphere with my whole body." Both managers were determined to downplay their spat. If anything, Pulis seemed to relish it. "He was animated but I've been animated all my life on the bench," he reasoned, when speaking about Klopp. "I have no problems with that. We have come here, tried to be resilient. I don't think there was a booking during the game." Pulis was correct about the latter point. Yet somehow, Craig Gardner was not dismissed for a tackle on Dejan Lovren, which forced the Croatian defender to leave the pitch on a stretcher, with his leg in a brace and needing oxygen. Klopp confirmed that Lovren needed stitches on his knee and will now undergo a scan. Concealed amid the drama was a bare reality: Liverpool are not yet an unstoppable force and at present this is what happens when they come across an immovable object.

West Bromwich were as unforgiving as a barbarian horde: their defence so powerful and robotic, a team of droids might as well have been at work. Clearances were regularly so high, they must have been close to interfering with air traffic control at John Lennon Airport. Like the second half, the first had finished mired in controversy, with the visitors believing they had taken a lead only for it to be correctly swiped away from them, albeit through a confusing decision-making process which made their fury understandable. Jonas Olsson and two team-mates were offside when Gardner's free-kick was delivered into the zone of uncertainty between Liverpool's goalkeeper Simon Mignolet and defence. Olsson volleyed it past Mignolet and celebrated by kung-fu kicking the corner flag next to the Kop and Centenary Stand, but only after examining referee Craig Pawson's reaction to check he wasn't being daft in doing so. Albion's players had just about finished high-fiving each other when Pawson decided to speak to his assistant Richard West, who had not raised his flag. After 20 seconds or so consultation, Pawson awarded a free-kick for Liverpool, causing Pulis to go mad on the touchline, nearly knocking his cap off when remonstrating with the fourth official.

Previously, Liverpool had needed to start quickly and unsettle their opponents, not allowing them to establish a defensive rhythm - and to a reasonable extent they did, deservedly taking the lead through a route that would appear if Pulis ever decided to publish a handbook on tactics. There was a cross, a knock-down header and a sweeping finish, with Emre Can, Adam Lallana and then Jordan Henderson completing the sequence, this in Henderson's first Premier League start since August.

However, Klopp's pre-match briefing that Liverpool must be alert to West Bromwich's threat at set pieces did not get through. Craig Dawson's equaliser arrived after more horrendous handling from Mignolet. Olsson later headed in another Chris Brunt corner.

That Klopp tried to protect his goalkeeper by taking responsibility for the mistake is significant. Mignolet is expected to sign an new contract in the next few days. "I said to Simon at half-time, if somebody says it was your fault, it is not true," Klopp said. "I want my keeper to come out and try for everything."



CUCKOO KLOPP; Crazy antics whip Anfield into a frenzy but there is method in German's madness;

LIVERPOOL 2

Henderson 21, Origi 90

WESTBROM 2

Dawson 30, Olsson 73

NEVER mind 'heavy metal football', it is clear Jurgen Klopp intends his Anfield revolution to be heavy on the mental.

And Liverpool fans should love it. The Reds boss was barmy yesterday in his reaction to a dramatic 96th-minute equaliser by Divock Origi.

By engaging in a screaming match with Baggies boss Tony Pulis, inciting the crowd, orchestrating the Anfield din, and generally going crazy, Klopp offered something we have not seen here before... and there was method in his madness. He wants the stadium to become a bastion of invincibility again. And he knows to do that, the fans must stifle the frightened, frustrated tension they displayed throughout the second half, and instead really get behind the team.

They did it at the end because of Klopp.

The sight of him, frenzied, frightening, furious, punching his fist and urging the crowd to roar for the final few minutes in search of a winner, was amongst the best scenes here in a long, long time. And it almost worked.

Only the resilience of West Brom's brilliant defence stopped the shots that rained down in the dying seconds.

But the Reds were, in truth, awful at the back, incompetent at dealing with West Brom's set-piece bombardment and . And yet they their way back ition because of aerial dominance. And yet they somehow clawed their way back from a difficult position because of a new-found spirit.

Manager Klopp will need to make changes in January, though, in particular signing a centre-half who does not switch off at setpieces and can organise and terrorise. West Brom almost stole it because he does not have one.

It all started well enough when Philippe Coutinho floated in a delightful ball, Adam Lallana headed down and skipper Jordan Henderson swept in. But then the doubts started on the terraces and soon in the team, and that insecurity was exposed inevitably from a set-piece, when Simon Mignolet flapped at a corner, and defender Craig Dawson prodded home.

Then Martin Skrtel slept at a at a Chris Brunt near-post corner and Gareth McAuley headed in.

Liverpool got their lifeline when the official decided on eight minutes of stoppage time, and sub Origi turned and slammed the ball home. Cue pandemonium... LIVERPOOL: Mignolet 4, Clyne 6, Skrtel 4, Lovren 6, Moreno 6, Henderson 7, Can 6, Milner 6, Lallana 6 (Firmino 86), Benteke 6, Coutinho 7 (Ibe 71, 5) WBA: Myhill 6, Dawson 7, McAuley 8, Olsson 7, Brunt 7, Fletcher 7, Evans 6, Gardner 7, Morrison 6, McClean 6, Rondon 7

REFEREE: Craig Pawson ATTENDANCE: 44, 117

Opposition: West Bromwich Albion

Competition: League

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Origi late equaliser earns Reds dramatic point

Divock Origi grabbed a dramatic 95th minute equaliser as Liverpool drew 2-2 with West Brom in the Premier League at Anfield.

The Reds were on the brink of crashing to a second successive Premier League defeat before the substitute's 25-yarder took a big deflection to leave Boaz Myhill beaten.

Tempers frayed on the touchline with boss Jurgen Klopp involved in a heated exchange with Tony Pulis and his backroom staff.

Klopp's manic celebrations at the late goal was followed by him marching on to the pitch to insist on his players holding hands in front of the Kop.

The Reds dominated for long periods against the combative Baggies but were punished from two set-pieces.

Jordan Henderson fired Jurgen Klopp's men ahead but Simon Mignolet's howler enabled Craig Dawson to level.

Jonas Olsson capitalised on more shoddy defending to make it 2-1 before Origi's rescue act.

The Reds also lost Dejan Lovren who was stretchered off with a knee injury. Fenway Sports Group president Mike Gordon watched on from the Anfield directors box as Liverpool took charge of the contest early on.

It was defence against attack as the Baggies got men behind the ball and looked to frustrate the hosts.

Emre Can turned in the box but the angle was tight and Myhill saved at his near post.

, Philippe Coutinho then pounced on Gareth McAuley's poor defensive header but lashed over the bar.

The breakthrough Liverpool craved arrived in the 21st minute.

Coutinho's cross was expertly nodded down by Adam Lallana and Henderson swept it home from six yards out.

Coutinho tested Myhill again before the Reds gifted the Baggies an equaliser on the half hour mark.

Mignolet flapped at Chris Brunt's corner and Dawson made him pay as he slotted home from close range.

The goal transformed the game - deflating players and supporters alike. Christian Benteke volleyed wide and Coutinho's low drive was easy for Myhill as the Reds struggled to summon a response.

Liverpool enjoyed a let-off right on half-time. Olsson volleyed home Craig Gardner's free-kick but it was chalked off for offsid.

In the second half Liverpool regained control and kept West Brom penned back. However, they were unable to make their dominance count.

Benteke failed to hit the target from Moreno's inviting cross and then Lovren's deflected header from Milner's free-kick flew just over.

Lallana's cross then dropped kindly to Benteke but he volleyed wide from 10 yards out.

The Kop did its best to inspire as supporters responded to Klopp's rallying call. Jordon Ibe replaced Coutinho as the Reds went in search of a winner.

However, they were stunned by another Baggies set-piece in the 73rd minute. Brunt once again provided the delivery and Olsson climbed highest at the near post to send a glancing header into the corner.

Liverpool's problems mounted when Lovren went down in agony with a large gash in his knee after being clattered by Gardner.

The Croatian defender was taken off on a stretcher. Klopp replaced him with Divock Origi with Can dropping into the back four.

Liverpool's late onslaught looked set to go unrewarded until Origi delivered. MATCH FACTS

Liverpool: Mignolet, Clyne, Skrtel, Lovren (Origi 79), Moreno, Henderson, Can, Milner, Lallana (Firmino 86), Benteke, Coutinho (Ibe 72).

Not used: Toure, Lucas, Allen, Bogdan.

West Brom: Myhill, Dawson, McAuley, Olsson, Brunt, Evans, Gardner, Fletcher, Morrison, McClean, Rondon (Lambert 90).

Not used: Chester, Anichebe, Berahino, McManaman, Lindegaard, Gnabry.

Referee: Craig Pawson Attendance: 44,147

Goals: Henderson 21, Dawson 30,

Bookings: none

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Express & Star

Albion had come from behind themselves to take the lead after Liverpool skipper Jordan Henderson opened the scoring from close range in the 21st minute. Craig Dawson equalised on the half-hour mark, squeezing the ball through a crowd of players after Simon Mignolet had dropped a Chris Brunt corner. Then, in the 73rd minute a towering Jonas Olsson header looked to have won the Baggies the game. But Origi ruined the trip home for Albion in the 96th minute when his shot deflected in, wrongfooting keeper Boaz Myhill.

The Welsh keeper had denied Adam Lallana one-on-one ten minutes from time with his feet but there was nothing he could do about the equaliser.

But in truth a point was nothing less than Liverpool - who had 28 shots during the game compared to Albion's four - deserved.

It obviously meant a lot to Reds' boss Jurgen Klopp, who banged his chest towards Albion head coach Tony Pulis when the goal went in.

The draw means Pulis's side are unbeaten in four games, and have taken six points from a difficult run of fixtures against Arsenal, West Ham, Spurs and Liverpool. They've come from behind to win something in all those matches. The Welshman started with the same team that finished the draw against Tottenham so strongly, with Craig Gardner coming in on the right wing for Stephane Sessegnon who was ruled out with the hamstring injury he picked up last weekend. Saido Berahino was on the bench for the fifth straight game, and Serge Gnabry got a rare place among the substitutes because Claudio Yacob had travelled back to Argentina for a family bereavement.

Jonny Evans started in holding midfield for the second week running. After coming on against Sion in midweek, Philippe Coutinho started his first game for Liverpool since his return from injury.

It took ten minutes for Jurgen Klopp's side to gain control of the game but then they missed a series of chances in quick succession. First, Gareth McAuley's important deflection denied Nathaniel Clyne's low cross from reaching Christian Benteke. Then, Emre Can had a shot straight at Boaz Myhill at the near post. Benteke was denied again in the box by a last-ditch tackle from Gardner, and then Coutinho missed the best chance of the lot, whizzing his shot narrowly over after the ball had fallen to him kindly in the area. Albion had a rare foray up the pitch in the 19th minute when Darren Fletcher's backheel put Gardner through and Mignolet was forced to beat away his deflected cross from going in at the near post. The right winger nearly reached James McClean's inswinging cross with a diving header a minute later before Liverpool got the goal their early pressure deserved. Coutinho stood a cross up to the back post and Adam Lallana's knocked down header was swept in by Reds skipper Jordan Henderson.

But Albion drew level on the half-hour mark thanks to a Mignolet howler.

Liverpool's keeper decided to come and collect Chris Brunt's cross but - under pressure from Salomon Rondon - dropped it, allowing Craig Dawson to squeeze the ball through a crowd of players. But Klopp's men came back at Albion. Benteke sent an unorthodox bicycle kick wide of the post before Coutinho had another shot saved by Myhill. The home crowd wanted a penalty when Gareth McAuley chest bumped Benteke in the box but there was no big appeal from the players and nothing was given. The biggest moment of the half came right at the end though, when Olsson put Gardner's free-kick into the back of the net. No flag was raised and as the Albion players wheeled away in celebration, the Liverpool fans along the line rose as one to berate the assistant referee. But after a long chat between ref and linesman the goal was eventually chalked off for offside and the players trudged into the changing rooms. Liverpool started the second half brightest, flooding forward and putting cross

after cross in for Benteke for attack.

James Milner dragged an effort wide from the edge of the area and Benteke put a volley wide.

The Baggies enjoyed a spell of pressure after that, without creating any real chances, but frustrated a Liverpool side desperate to get on the ball.

The pressure told though in the 73rd minute when Olsson rose highest in the box to glance Brunt's corner into the net at the far post.

Dejan Lovren was stretchered off not long after when Gardner's strong followthrough caught the Liverpool centre-back high on the leg.

The home side's best chance to draw level came in the 80th minute when Lallana was sent though one-on-one with Myhill, but the Welsh keeper came out quickly and saved the effort with his feet.

Rondon should have put the game to bed in the 87th minute when James McClean put him through, but the Venezuelan dragged his shot wide. Because of the eight minutes added on for Lovren's injury, there was plenty of time left for Liverpool to bang on the door.

Henderson shot straight down Myhill's throat, substitute Jordan Ibe put a longrange effort a foot wide, and Martin Skrtl wasted a chance at the back post. Then, right at the death, Origi's speculative effort won the Reds a point. ALBION (4-1-4-1): Myhill, Dawson, McAuley, Olsson, Brunt, Evans, McClean, Fletcher, Morrison, Gardner, Rondon (Lambert 90+3). Unused subs: Lindegaard (gk), Chester, Anichebe, Gnabry, Berahino, McManaman.

Opposition: West Bromwich Albion

Competition: League

| Times | Telegraph | Express and Star | |
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| Guardian | Mirror | Echo | |
| Independent | Mail | ввс | |

Divock Origi's deflected 95th-minute strike rescued a point for Liverpool against a resolute West Brom.

13 December 2015

The home side began well and took the lead when Jordan Henderson finished a superb and patient passing move.

But Simon Mignolet's error gifted a goal to Craig Dawson of Albion, who were furious when a delayed offside flag denied Jonas Olsson a goal.

Olsson looked to have headed West Brom to victory before substitute Origi's shot found the net deep in added time.

Such was the relief around Anfield at full-time that Reds manager Jurgen Klopp called his entire team together to conduct on-field celebrations in front of the

The point earned means Liverpool are ninth in the table, five points off the top four, while the two points lost leave West Brom 13th, six points above the bottom three.

Positives for Livernool

Striker Origi joined Liverpool in July 2014 for £10m but spent his first season on loan at Lille and has started only two league games this campaign.

However, after scoring a hat-trick in this month's 6-1 demolition of

outhampton in the Capital One Cup, he now has a first, memorable league goal for the Reds, coming in the fifth of eight minutes added for a serious leg injury to defender Dejan Lovren, resulting from a tackle with Craig Gardner

It came at the end of a game the home side largely dominated, both in terms of possession and shots.

Klopp's side had 70% of the ball, 28 attempts at goal to the Baggies' four and produced the goal of the game - a superb opener that began with goalkeeper Mignolet, comprised 20 passes and ended with Henderson firing home first time from Adam Lallana's downward header.

West Brom show their resilience

That Liverpool were forced to chase the game is down to a significant error from their goalkeeper, their own wastefulness in front of goal and West Brom's

Mignolet would undermine his side's good work soon after Henderson's opener with an air-punch from a corner that allowed Dawson to finish from close range. With Liverpool's confidence visibly dented. West Brom took advantage and went ahead through Olsson's glancing header from a Chris Brunt corner.

However, during the course of the game, the home side had enough chances to win

Between them, Philippe Coutinho and Christian Benteke had 10 shots, with the former firing the best of them over from 15 yards, while Lallana was denied by Boaz Myhill after breaking through the Baggies defence.

Controversial end to the first half

While the second half ended in drama, the first concluded in controversy. West Brom thought they would be heading into the break in front after Olsson had volleyed home a Craig Gardner free-kick from close range. Indeed, the Baggies players managed a good 30 seconds of celebration before they were cut short by an extremely belated flag for offside.

Replays had shown the ultimate decision to be the right one but Albion manager Tony Pulis and his players were irate at the mysterious and protracted manner in which it was reached.

Man of the match - Jonas Olsson

What the managers said

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp: "I'm satisfied now because it was the perfect finish to this game. The one point was the minimum that we deserved today.

"Two set plays cost us. We knew about their quality in these situations. It was difficult. We created chances, made a perfect goal then conceded those two.

"But at the end I can live with it. This could prove to be a very special moment for us in the season to strike back against such a team."

West Brom manager Tony Pulis: "We're disappointed. We showed great resilience and to get done with a deflected goal in the eighth minute of stoppage time is particularly disappointing for the players.

"I can't fault the players. To come to a place like this with their budget, players and standing, we shouldn't be in their league.'

On Albion having a goal ruled out for a 2-1 lead before half-time: "What disappointed me is the linesman doesn't put his flag up. If he puts his flag up straight away it is offside. Why the referee goes over and talks to him I don't know."

Liverpool travel to Watford next Sunday for a 13:30 GMT kick-off in the Premier League, while West Brom's final fixture before Christmas is at home against inform Bournemouth on Saturday

Opposition: West Bromwich Albion

Competition: League

| Times | Telegraph | Express and Star |
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| Guardian | Mirror | Echo |
| Independent | Mail | BBC |

13 December 2015

Full time Match ends, Liverpool 2, West Bromwich Albion 2.

90:00+9:29Full time Second Half ends, Liverpool 2, West Bromwich Albion 2.

90:00+8:01 Attempt blocked. Nathaniel Clyne (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Emre Can.

90:00+5:24Goal scored Goal!Goal! Liverpool 2. West Bromwich Albion 2. Divock Origi (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box to the bottom right corner. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.

90:00+4:36 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by James Morrison.

90:00+3:38Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, West Bromwich Albion. Rickie Lambert replaces Salomón Rondón.

90:00+2:35 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Craig Dawson.

90:00+2:33 Attempt blocked, Divock Origi (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Christian Benteke.

90:00+2:02 Simon Mignolet (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

90:00+2:02 Foul by Salomón Rondón (West Bromwich Albion.

90:00+0:01 Foul by Christian Benteke (Liverpool.

90:00+0:01 Jonas Olsson (West Bromwich Albion wins a free kick in the defensive half. 88:59 Attempt missed. Jordon Ibe (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the right. Assisted by Alberto Moreno.

88:14 Attempt saved. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the top centre of the goal. Assisted by Jordon Ibe.

86:39 Attempt missed. Salomón Rondón (West Bromwich Albion right footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by James McClean

85:33 Attempt blocked. James Milner (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Alberto Moreno.

85:03Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Liverpool. Roberto Firmino replaces Adam Lallana.

84:36 Hand ball by Craig Gardner (West Bromwich Albion.

83:34 Attempt blocked. James Milner (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.

82:16 Attempt blocked. Alberto Moreno (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is blocked.

79:17 Attempt saved. Adam Lallana (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Christian Benteke.

78:26Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Liverpool. Divock Origi replaces Dejan Lovren because of an injury.

78:22 Delay over. They are ready to continue.

74:33 Delay in match Dejan Lovren (Liverpool because of an injury.

72:37Goal scored Goal!Goal! Liverpool 1, West Bromwich Albion 2. Jonas Olsson (West Bromwich Albion header from the right side of the six yard box to the bottom left corner. Assisted by Chris Brunt with a cross following a corner.

71:58 Corner, West Bromwich Albion. Conceded by Emre Can.

71:01Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Liverpool. Jordon Ibe replaces Philippe

70:29 Delay over. They are ready to continue.

69:20 Delay in match James Milner (Liverpool because of an injury.

66:47 Christian Benteke (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

66:47 Foul by Jonny Evans (West Bromwich Albion.

65:01 Simon Mignolet (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half. 65:01 Foul by Darren Fletcher (West Bromwich Albion

64:21 Corner, West Bromwich Albion. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.

63:38 Delay over. They are ready to continue.

62:35 Delay in match Gareth McAuley (West Bromwich Albion because of an injury.

61:29 Attempt blocked. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Nathaniel Clyne.

60:51 Attempt missed. Christian Benteke (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the right.

58:28 Attempt missed. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is too high. Assisted by Emre Can.

55:47 Alberto Moreno (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

55:47 Foul by Salomón Rondón (West Bromwich Albion

54:33 Foul by Martin Skrtel (Liverpool.

54:33 Gareth McAuley (West Bromwich Albion wins a free kick in the defensive half.

53:58 Corner, Liverpool, Conceded by Gareth McAuley

53:56 Attempt blocked. Dejan Lovren (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by James Milner with a cross.

53:14 Adam Lallana (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

53:14 Foul by Jonas Olsson (West Bromwich Albion.

51:24 Attempt missed. Christian Benteke (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is high and wide to the right. Assisted by Alberto Moreno with a cross.

50:10 Attempt missed. James Milner (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho

47:30 Foul by James Milner (Liverpool.

47:30 Craig Gardner (West Bromwich Albion wins a free kick in the defensive half.

46:27 Adam Lallana (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

46:27 Foul by Jonas Olsson (West Bromwich Albion.

45:00 Second Half begins Liverpool 1, West Bromwich Albion 1.

45:00+1:36Half time First Half ends, Liverpool 1, West Bromwich Albion 1.

45:00+0:06 Offside, West Bromwich Albion. Craig Gardner tries a through ball, but Jonas Olsson is caught offside.

44:30 Foul by Emre Can (Liverpool.

44:30 Darren Fletcher (West Bromwich Albion wins a free kick in the attacking half.

43:47 Attempt missed. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the right. Assisted by James Milner

42:13 Attempt missed. James Milner (Liverpool left footed shot from the right side of

the box is high and wide to the left. Assisted by Adam Lallana.

39:31 Attempt saved. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Deian Loyren.

37:46 Attempt missed. Christian Benteke (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Alberto Moreno.

37:02 Christian Benteke (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

37:02 Foul by Gareth McAuley (West Bromwich Albion.

34:58 Dangerous play by Martin Skrtel (Liverpool.

34:58 Salomón Rondón (West Bromwich Albion wins a free kick in the attacking half.

33:19 Attempt saved. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Emre Can.

32:58 Alberto Moreno (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

32:58 Foul by Craig Gardner (West Bromwich Albion.

29:51Goal scored Goal!Goal! Liverpool 1. West Bromwich Albion 1. Craig Dawson (West Bromwich Albion left footed shot from very close range to the bottom left corner. Assisted by Salomón Rondón following a corner.

28:46 Corner, West Bromwich Albion. Conceded by James Milner.

27:57 Attempt missed. James Morrison (West Bromwich Albion left footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the right.

27:01 Attempt saved. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Emre Can

25:38 Christian Benteke (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

25:38 Foul by Gareth McAuley (West Bromwich Albion.

25:05 Attempt blocked. Christian Benteke (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.

20:50Goal scored Goal!Goal! Liverpool 1. West Bromwich Albion 0. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box to the centre of the goal.

Assisted by Adam Lallana with a headed pass. 18:23 Corner, West Bromwich Albion. Conceded by Simon Mignolet.

17:40 Dangerous play by Emre Can (Liverpool.

17:40 Salomón Rondón (West Bromwich Albion wins a free kick in the attacking half.

16:33 Attempt missed. Christian Benteke (Liverpool header from very close range misses to the right. Assisted by Alberto Moreno with a cross

13:03 Attempt missed. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of

11:43 Offside, Liverpool. Dejan Lovren tries a through ball, but Adam Lallana is caught offside

10:37 Attempt saved. Emre Can (Liverpool left footed shot from a difficult angle on the left is saved in the bottom left corner.

9:53 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Gareth McAuley.

9:51 Attempt missed. Nathaniel Clyne (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the left.

9:47 Attempt blocked. Christian Benteke (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Adam Lallana.

1:29 Foul by Emre Can (Liverpool.

1:29 James Morrison (West Bromwich Albion wins a free kick in the defensive half. 0:00 First Half begins.

0:00 Lineups are announced and players are warming up