Date: 20 January 2016
Opposition: Exeter City
Competition: FA Cup

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20 January 2016

THE TIMES

## Rising star Ojo sees off Exeter with wonder goal

Liverpool Allen 10, OJO 74, Teixeira 82 3 Exeter City 0

Liverpool continue to drive down a dual carriageway towards Wembley. In the semi-finals of the Capital One Cup, they moved into the fourth round of the FA Cup with this ultimately comfortable replay defeat of Exeter City, from Sky Bet League Two. Liverpool dominated throughout and Jordon Ibe continued to enhance his reputation with some pacey, confident attacking, giving Craig Woodman, Exeter's left back, a difficult evening. Joe Allen opened the scoring after ten minutes, but it was not until 16 minutes from time that Liverpool added a second, ending Exeter's hopes. It was a goal worth waiting for. It was Sheyi Ojo's first goal for the club and it was a gem, a strike at the Kop end that had home fans on their feet to salute the teenager. Joao Teixeira made it 3-0 after Christian Benteke had gone on a mesmerising dribble, much to the appreciation of the majority of the 43,292 fans. Exeter's supporters never stopped singing, and their club will enjoy this windfall but it is Liverpool going through to face West Ham.

Liverpool had begun strongly, scoring early on through Allen, who was constantly raiding forward from midfield. Ibe, attacking down the right, and the adventurous left back Brad Smith were also lively. With a string of crosses coming in, Benteke should really have embellished the lead in the first half. Liverpool's first half tally of 13 shots and seven corners to Exeter's nought and nought reflected the hosts' supremacy; the scoreline flattered the visitors and Paul Tisdale, resplendent in a stylish flat cap, rejigged his attack at the break.

The tracksuited Jurgen Klopp, his face half-hidden in a Liverpool scarf, had picked a more powerful, experienced team and it showed. Simon Mignolet, Allen and Ibe started in place of Adam Bogdan, Ryan Kent and Jerome Sinclair from the game at St James Park where Klopp fielded the second youngest team in Liverpool's history, at an average age of 22 years and 319 days.

Liverpool were sharp and industrious, using the flanks well, pinning their visitors back as they attacked the Anfield Road End containing the 6,000 Exeter supporters making their first visit here since 1981. Some wore special PS10 replay scarves emblazoned with the words "We Own Our Football Club".

Making good use of their airline sponsors, Tisdale's day-trippers flew into John Lennon Airport at 3.30pm, held a quick team meeting at the Titanmovement, ic Hotel and then drove to Anfield. Tisdale had rejigged his team. The old warhorse, Clinton Morrison, led the line for 45 minutes, taking on Tiago Ilori and Jose Enrique, who has gone from exile to captain. Tom Nichols, who had caused Liverpool so many problems in the first game, was surprisingly kept in reserve for 45 minutes. Lee Holmes tried to support Morrison while Alex Nicholls and the left-sided Arron Davies sought to deliver some crosses, but were frequently occupied helping out midfield. Exeter's main problem was a relative lack of mobility in central midfield occupied by Matt Oakley, 38, and Danny Butterfield, 36. Liverpool were soon moving confidently forward, taking the game to the League Two visitors. Ibe had a shot blocked by Butterfield. Benteke, turning quickly, shot low and hard but was denied by Bobby Olejnik. Exeter's goalkeeper was beaten after ten minutes. The excellent Smith tore down the left and exchanged passes with Benteke. Spotting Allen's stealthy Smith cut the ball back for the Welsh midfielder to begin this match as he had ended his last one against Manchester United, scoring with an emphatic low finish. Liverpool were in control, soon delivering a string of crosses towards Ben-teke. Teixeira whipped in a ball from the left that Benteke headed over. Ibe then sent a steepling cross towards the farpost where Benteke was crowded out. They kept going close to a second. Cameron Brannagan had a shot pushed away by Olejnik, who then repelled Ibe. Brannagan was impressing with some of his touches, and one ball to Ibe led to the winger letting fly, and his shot just flicked the crossbar. The half ended with Benteke's piledriver being blocked. Tisdale sent on Nichols, a target of Peterborough United, and Will Hoskins for Morrison and Butterfield at the break, trying to inject some more edge and youth. Tisdale was joined in the technical area by Steve Perryman, Exeter's director of football, as they sought to plot a recovery. The activity on the substitutes bench that drew the loudest noise was the introduction of Jon Flanagan, who had not played since June 4, 2014 for England in Miami. Flanagan, who replaced Connor Randall, has worked so hard during his rehab after knee surgery that it was a special moment for the local player, especially with the emotional welcome from the Liverpool fans after 51 minutes. In the build-up to the game, the popular right-back also received a good luck message from Steven Gerrard who called him by his affectionate nickname of Cafu. He soon embarked on some of those buccaneering runs.

Exeter's voluble fans tried to wind up Liverpool supporters with the Gerrard "slip" song and calling for waves from Tisdale and Klopp. Tisdale responded. Klopp focused on his team who were threatening the goal at the Kop. Ibe hit the bar and Ilori's attempt to reach the loose ball was ended by a subtle nudge.

Exeter engineered their first corner after an hour, and were gradually playing with more belief. YetLiverpool were creating the better chances. Ibe dribbled through, played a one-two with Teixeira, but placed the ball wide. Ojo came on for Allen, attacking down the right with Ibe moving to the left.

Ojo made it 2-0 with 15 minutes left.

Woodman must have felt some relief when Ibe switched flanks as he had really troubled the Exeter left back. But Ojo just ran at Woodman, and scored with a great finish in front of a delighted Kop. The best player on the field, Ibe, then departed to a standing ovation to be replaced by Pedro Chirivella.

Liverpool's third goal drew even more applause from the Kop. Benteke dribbled upfield, beating tackle after tackle, before checking back, turning and then angling a pass through Exeter's defence to Teixeira, who placed the ball past Olejnik.

Liverpool (4-1-4-1): S Mignolet 6 - C Randall 6 (sub: J Flanagan, 51min 6), T Ilori 6, J Enrique 6, B Smith 7 - K Stewart 7 - J Ibe 8 (sub: P Chirivella, 79), J Allen 8 (sub: S Ojo, 65 7), C Brannagan 7, J Teixeira 7 - C Benteke 6. Substitutes not used: A Bogdan, R Kent, J Sinclair, J Maguire.

Exeter City (4-4-2): B Olejnik 6 - C Ribeiro 6, T Brown 6, J Moore-Taylor 6, C Woodman 6 - A Nicholls 5, M Oakley 5 (sub: D Wheeler, 64 6), D Butterfield 5 (sub: W Hoskins, 46 6), A Davies 5 - C Morrison 4 (sub: T Nichols, 46 6), L Holmes 5. Substitutes not used: J McAllister, J Hamon, J Tillson, J Grant.

Referee: N Swarbrick.

theguardian

## Jürgen Klopp's Liverpool kids kill off Exeter City's FA Cup dream

Jürgen Klopp bemoaned the very existence of FA Cup replays two weeks ago but his tune changed along with Liverpool's superiority over Exeter City at Anfield. Youthful promise and wise heads combined for a comfortable win over the League Two side who, as suspected, missed their best chance of an upset at St James Park. Calculated Klopp's selection may have been, risky it was not.

Sheyi Ojo became the youngest goalscorer in Liverpool's FA Cup history with a majestic curler into the top corner of the Kop net, Joe Allen delivered the early lead that Anfield craved and João Carlos Teixeira completed the scoring on an encouraging night for the young prospects. Jon Flanagan's long-awaited return from injury made it a perfect night for Klopp. "A few days ago I could not have imagined I'd enjoy an FA Cup replay but I really did, so thank you FA Cup," beamed the Liverpool manager. West Ham United await in round four on Saturday week. Exeter flew into John Lennon Airport enthused by their 2-2 draw with the Premier League side on home soil but never came close to repeating that performance or scaring Liverpool for a second time. Simon Mignolet marked his new five-year contract with the most comfortable outing of his season. The only frustration for Anfield lay in the ponderous touch of Christian Benteke, a striker clearly struggling for confidence, yet even he ended the contest after telling contributions for Allen's and Teixeira's goals. Greater understanding, a better pitch and more guidance produced an immediate improvement from Liverpool's makeshift FA Cup team. Benteke started against Paul Tisdale's team, as in the first meeting though not in the subsequent Premier League games against Arsenal or Manchester United, and the striker was joined by Allen, Jordon Ibe and Mignolet as a shortened injury list increased Klopp's options. Liverpool did not make the mistake of allowing Exeter to establish a rhythm for a second time.

Anfield's youngsters trained together for only 40 minutes before the draw in Devon. They had three full training sessions before the replay and what little rapport developed at Melwood told as Liverpool's senior and inexperienced players combined for an early lead. Brad Smith, the Australian who secured the replay with a late equaliser at St James Park, was instrumental in the breakthrough. Liverpool's left-back exchanged passes with Benteke on the edge of the penalty area and showed great awareness as he sprinted towards the byline to cut the ball back for Allen to score from close range.

The Wales international started in a more advanced role with the composed, intelligent Kevin Stewart operating as the holding midfielder and the licence to venture forward paid dividends. Benteke's part in the opening goal also merited praise. His return pass to Smith was perfectly weighted behind the Exeter right-back Christian Ribeiro and helped Liverpool settle while puncturing the optimism of the 6,000 away fans who had impressively made the long journey north.

Liverpool 3-0 Exeter City: FA Cup third-round replay – as it happened

Minute-by-minute report:Exeter battled hard, but ultimately Liverpool were too much for their League Two opponents. Scott Murray was watching

Exeter's goalkeeper Bobby Olejnik was busy throughout, in contrast to Mignolet who had one cross to catch before half-time with the visitors unable to find any time or space on the ball to supply Clinton Morrison. Olejnik denied Teixeira, Cameron Brannagan and Ibe as the youngsters shot from range before the interval. Ibe also clipped the top of the crossbar with an angled drive while Brannagan was inches away from extending Liverpool's lead from the edge of the box. The best chance of a second for the home side fell to Benteke, who met Teixeira's inviting left-wing cross with a clean header but failed to hit the target from six yards. The visitors made too many unforced errors and only after the hour mark exerted any pressure on the Liverpool defence. By that stage it was a defence containing Flanagan, given a rapturous ovation when he replaced Connor Randall for his first senior outing in 20 months. Flanagan has endured nothing but torment since the end of the 2013-14 season, when his contribution to Liverpool's title challenge resulted in a place on England's standby list for the World Cup in Brazil. Instead of establishing himself for club and country Flanagan underwent two operations on a serious knee problem and, with his Liverpool contract due to expire at the end of the season, the full-back's return was well timed and received. Ibe almost doubled Liverpool's lead when he hit a powerful left-foot shot that struck the underside of the bar and bounced on the goalline. Most, but not all of the ball was over the line and Exeter were reprieved a second time when Stewart was pushed over as he attempted to convert the rebound only for referee Neil Swarbrick to ignore the penalty appeals.

Victory was ultimately secured in sublime fashion. Ojo impressed as a substitute

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at Exeter and had been on the pitch for only nine minutes as a replacement for Allen when he scored his first Liverpool goal. The 18-year-old took possession on the corner of the Exeter area and, with left-back Craig Woodman backing off, he accepted the invitation to shoot and curled a wonderful shot into the far, top corner. Benteke continued to test Anfield's patience but created the third with a measured pass to Teixeira, who made no mistake from 12 yards.

The Mail

## Smiles better FOR KLOPP; Late goals add gloss after Jurgen's men are made to sweat

iN the end, he started smiling. There was even a clap of the hands and a nod to the crowd as Sheyi Ojo's shot nestled in the Kop net.

For much of the night, though, Jurgen Klopp wore a furrowed brow. Liverpool secured a place in the FA Cup fourth round but they didn't do so as easily as they should have done, as a familiar problem surfaced.

The scoreline will suggest that Liverpool were comfortable victors but a late flurry, which yielded goals for Ojo and Joao Teixeira in front of the Kop, will distort how laboured they were for long periods. How Exeter will curse that they didn't go for broke in their initial meeting.

Liverpool were there for the taking in Devon and while this trip to Merseyside to play in front of a capacity crowd is something Exeter manager Paul Tisdale and his players will remember, one day it will dawn that they could perhaps should have ended Klopp's interest in this competition They may have provided one of the stories of the third-round, coming within 17 minutes of slaying a giant, but it was impossible to shake the feeling that Exeter's best hope had gone. As Dagenham and Redbridge manager John Still observed after his side had been swatted aside by Everton, League Two sides simply don't knock topflight teams out on their own turf. The money, of course, will come in handy but would it not have been better for Exeter to have had extratime and possibly penalties on their cabbage patch pitch? This replay was an inconvenience for the hosts and represented a mountain to climb for the visitors. On a fast pitch with open spaces, the men from League Two had their work cut out, even against a team of novices.

Klopp also ensured the spine of his team was more robust than had been the case at St James Park. In came Allen to bring calm to the midfield, Benteke provided the spearhead and Simon Mignolet replaced the calamitous Adam Bogdan in goal, and from a very early stage, it was apparent that Exeter would be in for a long night.

Better on the ball and sharper in their movement, Liverpool began pressing and probing. The play wasn't vintage, by any means, but it was precise enough to cause Exeter problems and within 10 minutes Liverpool had the lead when Allen calmly applied the finishing touch from six yards to a cut-back by Brad Smith, who had exchanged passes with Benteke.

When Allen scored last Wednesday against Arsenal, pouncing in the 90th minute to secure a draw in one of the games of the season, Klopp set off down the touchline in wild celebration, punching the air and whirling his arms in delight. This time, there was barely an acknowledgement from the manager, whose hands stayed in his pockets to protect them against the cold.

So far, so good. It was a goal that should have triggered a flurry. Exeter have hardly been in sparkling form they won in the league for the first time in six weeks at Leyton Orient last Saturday but Liverpool's problems this season have stemmed from their inability to punish teams.

Chief culprit was Benteke. If his selection was designed to give him some target practice, it did not go according to plan, particularly in the first half.

There was a header over the bar from Teixeira's cross, a shot thrashed into the side netting and a free-kick that thundered horribly into the defensive wall. This, much to Anfield's frustration, was a man trying too hard to impress.

Liverpool were never in danger of conceding before half-time. Exeter didn't have a shot and Mignolet's most awkward moment was dealing with a gentle, floated cross. But Liverpool's failure to establish daylight led to a degree of anxiety in the stands.

The closest Klopp side's came to extending their lead was a 32nd-minute shot from Cameron Brannagan that looped over.

It would be wrong to blame Benteke alone for Liverpool's lack of teeth. He is the headlinegrabbing name, of course, but what about Jordon Ibe, the winger who was being heralded as Raheem Sterling's successor this time last year? The talent is there but does he show it often enough? There was one superb moment from Ibe when he crashed a left-foot drive against the underside of the bar in the 54th minute, but there were infuriating patches when he either ran down cul-desacs or chose the wrong ball. If he is to become a diamond, he needs plenty more polishing.

Had that chance bounced down a fraction further over the line, Liverpool would have been home and dry.

The same was true when Benteke muscled his way on to a ball from Brannagan but ended up taking too many touches the sign of a striker whose confidence is brittle and allowed Exeter goalkeeper Bobby Olejnik the chance to save.

Eventually Liverpool's superior fitness told and Ojo broke Exeter's resistance with a curling left-foot strike before Teixeira finished the job.

The Daily Telegraph

## Ojo takes chance to show Klopp what he has been missing

Liverpool 3
Allen 10, Ojo 74, Teixeira 82
Exeter City 0
Att: 43,292

For Jurgen Klopp this was a night of discovery. Against a spirited but ultimately limited Exeter City, the Liverpool manager learned that, despite the gathering assumption of recent weeks, he has a reliable finisher on his books. It was a delightful goal by the substitute Sheyo Ojo, bent from the edge of the area with a dispatch rarely seen from his more elevated Liverpool colleagues, that decided this tie, settling the nerves that threatened to envelop Anfield. It was the goal that cemented a home tie with West Ham in the fourth round. It was the goal that made Klopp grin.

If you wanted evidence of Klopp's approach, it was there late in the second half. 68 was not the difference in league positions between these two clubs, but the shirt number of Liverpool's substitute Pedro Chirivella. Just as he had in the drawn first game in the Exeter mudbath twelve days previously, Klopp was using the FA Cup to give his fringe players a run-out. This was another night for experiment, for giving the first teamers a rest, for seeing what lies beneath the squad he inherited.

Which meant Christian Benteke was again leading the line as he had at St James Park. And it was not long before the Exeter fans filling the Anfield Road End were chanting "what a waste of money".

Benteke, gifted the opportunity to demonstrate that he should be included more often in the starting line-up, was at his most frustrating here, mixing moments of artistry with the leaden footed fumbles of a park player; the only thing consistent about him his sheer unpredictability. One minute he was meeting a Brad Smith cross with a foresquare thump of his forehead, the next he was being easily bullied off the ball by Exeter's Troy Brown. No wonder Klopp spent much of the first half turning to his bench with a look of grim frustration.

It was fortunate for the manager's blood pressure that all around Benteke, his young colleagues buzzed and harried, pushing Exeter ever deeper into their own half.

The League Two side were confi-dent on the ball, with Matty Oakley, the former Southampton man, busy in midfield. But Clinton Morrison, once of Crystal Palace, found himself starved of possession up front, looking every inch the 37-year-old veteran. Instead, with Jose Enrique - Liverpool's sixth captain of the season - easily blocking off any forward momentum from their opponents, it was the home side who took early ascendance.

On ten minutes, Smith, an eager and ambitious left back, sped down the wing and passed inside to Benteke. Proving, despite all available evidence, that he is not just a forehead on legs, the Belgian delivered an inch-perfect return pass in behind the visiting defence. Smith, running on, crossed delightfully for Joe Allen. The Welshman merely had to side-foot the invitation past Bobby Olejnik to give Liverpool the lead.

But if the Exeter manager Paul Tisdale, soberly attired in a black flat cap, feared a rout, none was forthcoming. Jordan Ibe probed and dashed, Joao Carlos Teixeira shot from outside the box, Allen scurried and harried. But with Benteke where the cutting edge should be, hitting a free kick into the wall one minute, then firing into the side netting when well placed the next, Liverpool could not convert dominance into goals.

Tisdale made a change at half time, taking off the largely anonymous Morrison and putting Tom Nichols in his stead. The substitute had little greater effect as the game maintained the same pattern: Liverpool in control of everything, but finding little return for their dominance. Ibe and Allen were constantly involved, but when the ball was fed forward to Benteke it rarely stuck. His effort when breaking through on to Cameron Brannagan's deft through pass was particularly unimpressive, allowing the ball to run far too close to Olejnik, who smothered easily.

The home fans could find relief, however, in the substitution Klopp made early into the half. To a huge ovation for Jon Flanagan returned after 20 months out with a knee injury. The full back who was on the fringes of breaking into the England squad before injury struck, was soon galloping down the right.

And on 53 minutes, Ibe decided to miss out the forward pass and skimmed in a shot from the edge of the area, which hit the underside of the bar and bounced down on the line. Without goal-line technology the referee Neil Swarbrick was dependent on his assistant. But the naked eye decision was the right one: not all of the ball was over.

Then, just as Liverpool's failure to capitalise was making the home crowd edgy, came relief. The substitute Ojo showed precisely what was needed. Picking up a clever pass from Ibe, the former MK Dons forward, bent a delightful left foot shot beyond Olenijk. Five minutes later came a third. Fed by Benteke, Teixeira got reward for his clever work all evening as he shot home.

So Liverpool remain in both domestic cups. And for Klopp, the joys of the FA Cup are growing ever more apparent. This is the competition that tells him precisely what he has. And in the case of Benteke, has not.

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THE INDEPENDENT

## Ojo strike displays Liverpool spirit as Exeter crumble

For Liverpool, there was the satisfaction of creating some FA Cup romance while squeezing the life out of the side who were supposed to have arrived to bring it. Rare have been the nights when they could claim that, amid the travails of the difficult past few years. The group of players who provided football of verve and energy added their names to a long list of young individuals who have so graced this ground. The decisive goal by the 18-year-old England youth international Sheyi Ojo will live in the memory for many a long day.

They played the Wurzels' "I am a cider drinker" across the Anfield Tannoy before the game began and, if that really was intended to provide a little familiarity for Exeter, then it did not entirely work on a couple of scores.

The cider production is over the Devon county border in Somerset, from where the makers are actually moving a large chunk of it to Ireland.

No matter and no offence taken, because the FA Cup and its incredible journeys have been the salvation of this League Two side, and this one never felt any less special. They don't even have a serviceable Tannoy at their place and the makeshift dressing rooms, built in the same year Bob Paisley was first taking up the managerial seat in this city, will also be put right at last with the [pounds sterling]500,000 bonanza that these two games against Liverpool have brought.

There is also the sense of self-respect that the 2-2 draw at St James' Park has given Exeter. They have come a long way since those excruciating days of Uri Geller and Michael Jackson, not to mention John Russell and Mike Lewis, the pair who put the club [pounds sterling]4.5m in debt, virtually bankrupt and in the Conference, all in the space of a year. However, their good fortune to be here did not compensate for the gulf between the sides when the game began. Jrgen Klopp was taking far fewer liberties with this game than he did the first tie, when 13 of the 14 who played for the Liverpool manager were making their FA Cup debuts. Simon Mignolet, Jordon Ibe and Joe Allen started, and the side in black were so pummelled by Liverpool's intense pressing that they could not find their own measure or rhythm, or even start to string passes.

They were behind inside 10 minutes, to an exquisitely worked manoeuvre: a precise one-two with Christian Benteke at its axis, after Jose Enrique's pinpoint raking pass to the left flank, which sent Brad Smith behind the defence to level a ball back for Joe Allen. The Welshman lay undetected and struck it home well, continuing to enjoy the renaissance which is proving such a good advertisement for sprouting a beard. It took away all grounds for anxiety, though Liverpool's young side really showed none, playing with a spirit of adventure which, set against some of the drudgery against such sides as Carlisle United and Middlesbrough in the dog days of the Brendan Rodgers era, suggested again that they are travelling forward under this management.

Smith's presence of mind for the goal bore out an impressive first half, though Klopp offered him a piece of his mind when his defensive work failed him on one occasion. With the caveat that this really was no test, Joao Carlos Teixeira was more impressive still, with his imagination and clever close control, while Cameron Brannagan, who has been a source of interest across Europe for two years, created a constant threat. The dramatic tension belonged to Benteke, in the way that it can for a player when the truth is out there about his manager's doubts. There was no captaincy for him as there had been in Devon - Enrique took that instead - and though his involvement could not be doubted, his touch and finishing were not there. After another of the striker's clever return passes sent Klopp's holding midfielder Kevin Stewart through on goal, Benteke spurned two excellent headed opportunities - one touched over, the other put wide. A scuffed shot and some lost control after a series of stepovers provoked ironic cheers.

It contributed to Liverpool's struggle to find the second goal which might have finished things, though the shots that they rained in, frequently from the right foot of Ibe, who looked in easy street, suggested that there was more to follow. Ibe had gone close twice before a thunderous shot from just inside the area cracked the underside of the crossbar with a bounce that was millimetres away from doubling the lead. Any hope of some League Two romance diminished with Clinton Morrison's struggle to make an impression, though the snatched and wild cross from Alex Nicholls when Stewart was dispossessed told of a team rushing, panicking and being crushed into submission.

Paul Tisdale attempted some emergency half-time surgery, immediately introducing Will Hoskins for Danny Butterfield and Tom Nichols for Morrison after the break. There was greater impetus, a corner and an attempt on goal, but it was the arrival of Jon Flanagan, a full 629 days and two knee operations after he last featured in a Liverpool starting line-up, that provided the greater electricity.

Then, the singular moment of genius that finished things. Substitute Ojo had only 19 minutes of first-team football to his name but his curled, left-footed strike into the top left-hand corner of Bobby Olejnik's net revealed why the club moved heaven and earth to bring him here as a 14-year-old from MK Dons.

Teixeira put his side out of sight with eight minutes left, sliding home right-footed after Benteke had bulldozed through midfield, looked up and picked him out unmarked. Benteke even had a chance for salvation as the night wore out, though after rounding the keeper on the counter-attack he ran the ball out of play.

It was inconsequential. Liverpool have progressed to either finals or semi-finals on each of the four occasions they have encountered Exeter in cup competitions. Grounds to feel history can repeat itself.

DAILY Mirror

## SAFE BET FOR KLOPP; Jurgen's risk and reward as Ojo and Co cruise into fourth-round Hammers clash

JURGEN KLOPP will feel his FA Cup gamble was justified after all.

Liverpool flirted with humiliation in the first game, took far too long to assert control at Anfield in the replay but in the end won at a canter.

Klopp rested almost all of his big guns but this time some of his youngsters and fringe players did seize their chance.

Jordon Ibe was man of the match, Sheyi Ojo scored the best goal of the night and the only worry was that Christian Benteke could not find the net in 180 minutes against League Two opposition.

The Reds boss was accused of not showing the FA Cup enough respect when he used all the kids in the first game at Exeter, and there was a smattering of more experience at Anfield.

But amid a crippling injury list, he clearly feels English football's oldest treasure is lowest on his priority list right now.

Liverpool are still chasing an unlikely top-four finish, are in a Capital One Cup semi-final and there are simply not enough players to go round.

He may field a stronger line-up in the next round against West Ham on Saturday week, but the unforgiving fixture logjam could tempt him to play the kids again.

He probably feels he has learnt a lot about some of them, although would already have known Ibe is an outstanding talent, whose dribbling, longrange shots and movement set him apart. Ojo, 18, looks special too and he terrorised Exeter's tiring defence in the closing stages.

There was also a special moment for Jon Flanagan, called off the bench in the 51st minute to a moving reception after nearly 20 months out through injury. It was spine-tingling stuff.

But, for the neutral anyway, sadly no FA Cup fairy tale for plucky Exeter. Twice they led Liverpool in the first game but, despite a few bright moments in the second half last night, never showed the same energy or belief.

The home side were ahead after 10 minutes when impressive left-back Brad Smith swapped passes with Benteke and sent in a low cross for Joe Allen.

Last week, Allen grabbed an injury-time leveller against Arsenal. This time the midfielder - one of the few familiar faces in the Liverpool line-up - made his mark early with a close-range finish. Three times Ibe hit drives which either hit the woodwork, flew just wide or forced a save.

Defender Troy Brown was Exeter's best player, enjoying a battle with Benteke.

Ironically, Exeter boss Paul Tisdale started with star striker Tom Nichols - who scored in the first game -on the bench.

The excuse was that he had a cold. The more likely reason was a bid from Peterborough. So much for the romance of the cup.

Tisdale is supposed to be a trendsetter and his designer jeans, coat and cap showed up Klopp in his tracksuit.

But veteran Exeter striker Clinton Morrison, 36, looked horribly out of fashion and was lost in the first half as the visitors were left to man the barricades with no threat up front whatsoever. Nichols finally came on at the break to replace him, along with Will Hoskins, and brought energy and movement as they began to give Liverpool one or two anxious moments.

Liverpool took charge in the 74th minute. Ibe's pass found Ojo, left-back Craig Woodman stood off and the teenager used the time and space to curl a beauty into the top corner.

Benteke went on a long, mazy run and played a perfect pass for Joao Carlos Teixeira who, in keeping with his night, kept his composure to fire home.

In the end, it was easy for Liverpool.

A good night for some of Klopp's wannabes and a safe passage into the next round with his point proved.

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LIVERPOOL ECHO

A night many stepped forward - just not Benteke

It's been a long time since Anfield enjoyed a night as straightforward as this.
No drama here. No danger of an embarrassing exit. Having maintained Liverpool's interest in the FA Cup by the skin of their teeth in Devon 12 days earlier, Jurgen Klopp's young guns raised the bar on home turf as they swatted aside Exeter City with a minimum of fuss. It was a gamble by Klopp to leave out so many established names, especially on the back of such a damaging defeat to Manchester United. But the manager's faith in youth was rewarded as Liverpool booked themselves a home tie with West Ham in the fourth round on January 30. Not since Swansea were beaten 4-1 back in December 2014 had the Reds secured a home win as emphatic as this.
Yes, it was only League Two outfit Exeter. But it was also only Carlisle who dragged Liverpool to the lottery of a penalty shootout in the League Cup four months ago. From the moment Joe Allen fired the Reds in front early on the outcome was never in doubt. Substitute Sheyi Ojo marked his home debut in style by becoming the youngest FA Cup scorer in the club's history at 18 years and 215 days. Joao Carlos Teixeira then opened his account for the Reds on a night which was testament to the expertise and hard graft of the club's Academy staff.
There were five home debuts in total with Brad Smith, Tiago Ilori, Kevin Stewart, Pedro Chirivella and Ojo all getting a run out and they could all hold their heads high.

Thunderous ovation for returning Flanagan

On a night packed full of positives there was also the long-awaited comeback of Jon Flanagan, who received a thunderous ovation from the Kop.
In fact the only downside for Klopp was the lack of contribution from the club's most expensive acquisition. It was another bleak night for Christian Benteke, who did little to prove he deserves to start at Carrow Road on Saturday.
Chances were squandered, his movement was sluggish and he looks devoid of confidence. Klopp may insist he's the “complete striker” and that he remains firmly part of his plans, but the reality is that when the big games come along he keeps getting overlooked and that appears to have deflated him.
Where the game at St James Park had been a struggle from start to finish in dreadful conditions, this time a shadow Liverpool line up stamped their authority on the contest from the off. The gulf in class was crystal clear as Exeter were pinned back in their own half. Jordon Ibe led the charge with his searing pace down the right, while on the other flank Teixeira lit up Anfield with his trickery and eye for a pass. Connor Randall also helped set the tone with a couple of crunching tackles. The message was clear - the Reds' youngsters wouldn't wilt under the lights. Benteke had already forced a save from Bobby Olejnik before the breakthrough arrived in the 10 minute. Smith played a slick one-two with Benteke down the left and picked out Allen, who tucked it away from close range.

Goals like buses for Allen

Having endured a nine-month goal drought, it was the Welshman's second in the space of a week following his late heroics against Arsenal.
The only frustration was that Liverpool squandered some gilt-edged opportunities to kill the tie off before the interval. Benteke was the main reason why it remained in the melting pot for so long. While all around him young talent blossomed, the £32.5million striker toiled as his touch repeatedly let him down. When Teixeira's inch-perfect cross put it on a plate for him, Benteke somehow conspired to head over. Moments later the big frontman scuffed horribly wide and then nodded into the side-netting after the outstanding Cameron Brannagan had picked him out at the far post.
There have been times this season when Benteke could righly bemoan a lack of service from wide areas but on this occasion he had nowhere to hide. Nothing went right for him. Benteke took responsibility when Allen was upended 25 yards out but slammed the free-kick into the wall. Brannagan latched on to the loose ball and forced a sprawling save from Olejnik. Brannagan played with a real swagger in the middle of the park. The teenager fired just over after a surging run down the left from Smith and his tireless pressing never gave Exeter a moment's peace.

Smith a contender for Moreno's spot

This was also another step forward for Australia international Smith, who is quickly emerging as a serious contender for Alberto Moreno's left-back spot.
On the other flank Ibe continued to torment Exeter but he couldn't provide the finish. Twice, he was thwarted by Olejnik before another fierce strike brushed the bar. Just before the break the impressive Allen released Benteke but again his finish lacked conviction and it was hacked clear. The biggest threat to Simon Mignolet was frost bite as the makeshift centre-back partnership of stand-in captain Jose Enrique and Ilori remained untested. Early in the second half came the “eruption” Steven Gerrard had predicted would accompany the sight of No 38 being raised by the fourth official. It had been 619 days since Jon Flanagan had last played competitively at Anfield and how the Academy graduate has been missed. Two knee operations later and after a gruelling rehabilitation he's back and on a mission to make up for lost time.
Liverpool lost their Scouse heartbeat when Gerrard departed last summer but if Flanagan can hit the heights he reached in 2013/14 then that cherished local presence will be guaranteed for years to come.

Big finish

The flow of the contest remained unchanged – Liverpool in total control but struggling to deliver the decisive blow. Ibe went agonisingly close when his thunderous strike hit the underside of the bar and stayed out. Benteke's touch let him down again after Brannagan had put him through, while Ibe fired wide after a neat one-two with Teixeira. Allen departed to a warm ovation having staked a serious claim to start at Norwich on Saturday.
Ojo, his replacement, needed just nine minutes to announce himself to the Kop on his home debut. Latching on to Ibe's pass, the rookie winger planted an unstoppable left-footer into the far corner. The tie was over and eight minutes from time the Reds added a third. Benteke, who skipped away from a couple of tired challenges, could have gone alone but opted to tee up Teixeira, who finished in style. It was a night when many took a real step forward. Unfortunately, Benteke didn't join them.
LIVERPOOL: Mignolet, Randall (Flanagan 51), Ilori, Enrique, Smith, Brannagan, Allen (Ojo 65), Stewart, Ibe (Chirivella 79), Teixeira, Benteke. Subs: Bogdan, Kent, Sinclair, Maguire.GOALS: Allen 10, Ojo 74, Teixeira 82.
EXETER CITY: Olejnik, Butterfield (Hoskins 45), Woodman, Ribeiro, Oakley (Wheeler 64), Holmes, Davies, Morrison (Nichols 45), Nicholls, Moore-Taylor, Brown. Subs: McAllister, Hamon, Tillson, Grant.
REFEREE: Neil Swarbrick. ATT: 43,292
MAN OF THE MATCH: Cameron Brannagan. Another accomplished performance from the young midfielder.

Express & Echo

A goal from Joe Allen put Jurgen klopp's team into an early lead, but the Premier League side failed to make the game safe until the final 15 minutes when Shey Ojo and Joao Teixeira fired home. That was largely down to Liverpool's wastefulness in front of goal though, especially in a first half where they dominated possession and the territory. City manager Paul Tisdale sprung a surprise with his starting line-up, playing a 4-3-3 formation, with veteran striker Clinton Morrison up front with Alex Nicholls and Lee Holmes up in support.
It was the 36-year-old's first start for the Grecians since November 28 and he replaced the in-form Tom Nichols who had scored and picked up the man-of-the-match in the first game at St James's Park 12 days ago. It was a gamble by the City manager that didn't pay-off. Despite saying he would name a similar side for the replay, Klopp brought three experienced players into the line-up that didn't play at St James's Park. Simon Mingolet replaced Adam Bogdan in goal and Joe Allen and Jordan Ibe also featured from the first whistle.
Jon Flanagan was also named on the bench for Liverpool. The full-back has been out of action for over 18 months after suffering a serious knee injury in May 2014. Exeter had to soak up a lot of first-half pressure and were fortunate that they were not more than a goal down at the break. Liverpool's breakthrough came in the ninth minute as Brad Smith, the Australian full-back who scored in the first tie, played a neat one-two with Christian Benteke before pulling the ball back for Allen to side foot home from close range. Benteke had three good headers which could have added to that total but he only tested City keeper Bobby Olejnik with one of them. The worst miss came when Teixeira found him unmarked with a cross in the 19th minute the Belgian headed over from six yards. He followed that up by losing possession with an ill-advised step-over and the 6,000 Grecians behind the goal mocked him with chants of 'what a waste of money.'
However, the visiting support had little to cheer of their own with only a sliced cross from Alex Nicholls forced Simon Mignolet into any kind of action in the first half. At the other end Olejnik had to palm away fierce shots from Cameron Brannagan and Jordan Ibe and went into the break looking odds on favourites to be named City's man-of-the-match. Tisdale made two changes at the break, bringing on Nichols and Will Hoskins on for Clinton Morrison and Danny Butterfield. That saw them change to a 4-4-2 line-up.
However, it was Liverpool who began the second half on top again with Connor Randall crossing to the back post where Ribeiro had to head behind for a corner under pressure from Benteke. Klopp then made his first change of the game bringing on Flanagan to warm reception from the Anfield crowd. Randall was the man to depart. Liverpool came very close to making it 2-0 in 53rd minute as a short corner routine allowed Ibe to work a yard of room in the box and smack a ball of the underside of the crossbar. Seven minutes later Olejnik had to brave to dive at the feet of Benteke as the ball was played to the Liverpool striker in the box. Tisdale made his third substitution of the match shortly after the Grecians had won their first corner of the match on the hour. David Wheeler was the player to come on, replacing Matt Oakley. City enjoyed more territory in the minutes that followed, but were still struggling to create a clearcut opportunity.
At this stage it was still too close for comfort for Liverpool and they went searching for a second as Teixeira had a decent shot blocked by Brown. It was a good closing down by the City defender but the Liverpool midfielder should have done better. However, Liverpool got the second goal their play deserved as substitute Shey Ojo, under pressure from Woodman, curled a shot into the top corner to give the home side some much needed breathing space and then the home side made the game safe as Teixeira hammered a shot past Olejnik with nine minutes to go.

*Compiled by Graeme Riley*

Date: 20 January 2016
Opposition: Exeter City
Competition: FA Cup

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| Times | Telegraph | Echo |
| Guardian | Mirror | Express & Echo |
| Independent | Mail | BBC |

20 January 2016

A Benteke goal would have completely a perfect night for Liverpool, but he had another effort well saved by Olejnik and then with the final kick-off the match he ran the ball out of play having rounded the City keeper in the area.
Liverpool (4-2-3-1): Mignolet; Smith, Ilori, Enrique, Randall (Flanagan, 66); Stewart, Brannagan; Allen (Ojo, 65), Teixeira, Ibe (Chirivella, 79); Benteke. Subs not used: Bogdan, Kent, Sinclair, Ojo, Maguire.
Exeter City (4-3-3): Olejnik, Ribeiro, Brown, Moore-Taylor, McAllister; Oakley (Wheeler, 63), Butterfield (Nichols, 45); Davies, Nicholls, Holmes; Morrison (Hoskins, 45). Subs not used: McAllister, Hamon, Wheeler, Tillson, Grant.
Attendance: 43,292 (6,000 away)

BBC

Liverpool set up a fourth-round FA Cup tie against West Ham as they easily saw off League Two Exeter at Anfield. It was one-way traffic as the hosts dominated, monopolising possession and their pace was too much for Exeter.
Joe Allen put the Reds ahead, sweeping home from close range after good work by Brad Smith and Christian Benteke. Sheyi Ojo, put through by Jordon Ibe, brilliantly curled in beyond Robert Olejnik, while Joao Teixeira sealed the victory with a calm finish. Jurgen Klopp's men will now prepare to host West Ham, a side who have comfortably beaten them twice in the league this season, on 30 January.
All eyes on Benteke
Klopp fielded a slightly more experienced line-up for this replay than the one at Exeter, which had just three players boasting more than four first-team appearances. Adam Bogdan paid the price for his poor performance in the original tie with regular goalkeeper Simon Mignolet stepping in as one of three changes, though the Belgium international was largely unemployed.
Allen, Jose Enrique and Ibe added Premier League know-how, though all eyes were on £32.5m striker Benteke who has been a substitute for many of Liverpool's biggest games this season. The striker, criticised for his performances since his summer arrival, again failed to impose himself on a match. He had a number of chances - heading over the crossbar and into the side-netting, messing up when clear on goal after the break while failing to hit the target when clean through in stoppage time. However, the 25-year-old - who Klopp said this week had a long-term future at Anfield - did play a part in the opening goal, feeding Smith as the Australian charged forward to cut back to Allen, and assisted Teixeira as the Spaniard struck from 12 yards.
Klopp defends misfiring Benteke
Benteke received the support of his manager after the match, with Klopp blaming referee Neil Swarbrick for making life difficult for the Belgium international.
"I saw Christian after the game, he was in good shape," said the German. "The ref didn't help, it wasn't easy for him. There were a lot of times when Christian was penalised for a foul and I didn't see a foul. He worked for the spaces in and around the box and it would have been nice for him to score but it's OK.
"Our next opponent is West Ham. We didn't play well at West Ham so we have to correct it and show we can do better - but it's a good game and a very important tournament for us."
Flanagan returns for Reds
Academy product Jon Flanagan, absent for 18 months because of injury, was introduced in the 51st minute and received a standing ovation from the 43,000 crowd. The 23-year-old, a key player during the club's Premier League title challenge under Brendan Rodgers two season ago, has undergone two separate knee operations since he last played for the team in May 2014.
Former Reds captain Steven Gerrard said the team had missed the full-back and had predicted earlier in the day on **social media** that Anfield would "erupt" should Flanagan be introduced. A number of Klopp's young players caught the eye. Ibe's pace gave Exeter problems and the 20-year-old twice went close, hitting the crossbar on one occasion with the ball agonisingly dropping on the line. Ojo, Cameron Brannagan and Smith also showed much promise.
Reward in defeat for Exeter
Before the match Exeter manager Paul Tisdale had urged his team to play with "no fear", but they were not allowed to play at all as Liverpool pressed with urgency, forcing the visitors to retreat into their own half, in the first half especially. Playing on a better surface, the League Two side were unable to rattle their opponents like they had done at St James Park where they were 2-1 up until Smith's late equaliser. Tisdale's men, 14th in League Two having won just one of their last seven games, lacked the pace to trouble Liverpool's much-maligned defence but they did improve after the break as attacking substitutions were made, with Tom Nichols, Will Hoskins and David Wheeler introduced in a switch to 4-4-2. But there is a silver lining for the Devon side, whose chairman Julian Tagg described the competition as the club's "lifeblood", as their trip to Anfield is estimated to have earned them £700,000.
Man of the match - Sheyi Ojo
What the Exeter manager said
Paul Tisdale: "I'm disappointed but not surprised. We have to be realistic, it was a big challenge. I knew I had to pace the team. We couldn't overdo it too early. We didn't get to grips with the game in the first 20 minutes.
"But I'm proud of the players, a lot of them excelled. The key was to show purpose but we took too long to get there. We had our chance in the first tie and the reality was that it was going to be a big challenge.
"The second goal killed the game, but it was a good experience for the players and a great day for the club. The money helps, we're a very small club. We very rarely get these windfalls so it will be put to good use."
The stats you need to know
After going 17 games in all competitions without a goal, Joe Allen has now scored in consecutive appearances for Liverpool. Brad Smith has been directly involved in three goals in three appearances in English cup competitions this season for Liverpool (one goal, two assists). Liverpool have never lost to a fourth-tier side in the FA Cup, going 15 games unbeaten (W12 D3). Liverpool have won six and lost none of their past eight FA Cup games at Anfield.

*Compiled by Graeme Riley*

Date: 20 January 2016
Opposition: Exeter City
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20 January 2016

BBC

Full time Match ends, Liverpool 3, Exeter City 0.
90:00+2:19Full time Second Half ends, Liverpool 3, Exeter City 0.
90:00+1:19 Foul by Brad Smith (Liverpool.
90:00+1:19 Tom Nichols (Exeter City wins a free kick on the right wing.
90:00+0:49 Attempt blocked. Arron Davies (Exeter City right footed shot from the right side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Tom Nichols.
89:43 João Teixeira (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
89:43 Foul by Christian Ribeiro (Exeter City.
89:19 Foul by Brad Smith (Liverpool.
89:19 David Wheeler (Exeter City wins a free kick on the right wing.
88:21 Attempt saved. João Teixeira (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Brad Smith.
87:22 Attempt saved. Christian Benteke (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Cameron Brannagan.
85:27 Attempt blocked. Tom Nichols (Exeter City right footed shot from the right side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Christian Ribeiro with a cross.
83:45 Offside, Liverpool. Kevin Stewart tries a through ball, but Christian Benteke is caught offside.
81:09Goal scored Goal!Goal! Liverpool 3, Exeter City 0. João Teixeira (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box to the centre of the goal. Assisted by Christian Benteke with a through ball.
80:02 Attempt blocked. Pedro Chirivella (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Sheyi Ojo.
79:03 Foul by Christian Benteke (Liverpool.
79:03 Jordan Moore-Taylor (Exeter City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
78:52Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Liverpool. Pedro Chirivella replaces Jordon Ibe.
78:06 Sheyi Ojo (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
78:06 Foul by Craig Woodman (Exeter City.
77:35 Attempt blocked. Lee Holmes (Exeter City left footed shot from outside the box is blocked.
75:51 Foul by Christian Benteke (Liverpool.
75:51 Troy Brown (Exeter City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
73:52Goal scored Goal!Goal! Liverpool 2, Exeter City 0. Sheyi Ojo (Liverpool left footed shot from the right side of the box to the bottom left corner. Assisted by Jordon Ibe.
71:07 Attempt saved. Sheyi Ojo (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Cameron Brannagan.
71:04 Attempt missed. Cameron Brannagan (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the right.
71:02 Attempt blocked. João Teixeira (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Jordon Ibe.
68:45 Attempt blocked. Alex Nicholls (Exeter City left footed shot from outside the box is blocked.
68:01 Foul by Kevin Stewart (Liverpool.
68:01 Lee Holmes (Exeter City wins a free kick in the attacking half.
64:54Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Liverpool. Sheyi Ojo replaces Joe Allen.
63:28Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Exeter City. David Wheeler replaces Matt Oakley.
63:02 Attempt missed. Jordon Ibe (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the left. Assisted by João Teixeira.
61:38 Attempt saved. Lee Holmes (Exeter City header from the centre of the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Will Hoskins with a cross.
60:52 Foul by Christian Benteke (Liverpool.
60:52 Jordan Moore-Taylor (Exeter City wins a free kick in the attacking half.
59:39 Corner, Exeter City. Conceded by Brad Smith.
59:13 Attempt saved. Christian Benteke (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Cameron Brannagan.
55:40 Christian Benteke (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.
55:40 Foul by Troy Brown (Exeter City.
54:47 Tiago Ilori (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
54:47 Foul by Lee Holmes (Exeter City.
53:57 Attempt missed. João Teixeira (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is too high. Assisted by Cameron Brannagan with a cross following a corner.
53:21 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Troy Brown.
53:18 Jordon Ibe (Liverpool hits the bar with a left footed shot from the right side of the box. Assisted by Cameron Brannagan following a corner.
52:52 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Troy Brown.
50:11Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Liverpool. Jon Flanagan replaces Connor Randall.
49:41 Offside, Liverpool. Tiago Ilori tries a through ball, but Jordon Ibe is caught offside.
49:37 Attempt missed. Kevin Stewart (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box misses to the right following a corner.
48:49 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Christian Ribeiro.
45:32 Attempt missed. Alex Nicholls (Exeter City left footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the left.
45:00 Second Half begins Liverpool 1, Exeter City 0.
45:00Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Exeter City. Tom Nichols replaces Clinton Morrison.
45:00Substitution SubstitutionSubstitution, Exeter City. Will Hoskins replaces Danny Butterfield.
45:00+1:10Half time First Half ends, Liverpool 1, Exeter City 0.
44:23 Attempt blocked. Christian Benteke (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Joe Allen.
43:43 Foul by Cameron Brannagan (Liverpool.
43:43 Matt Oakley (Exeter City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
41:48 Brad Smith (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.
41:48 Foul by Matt Oakley (Exeter City.
40:03 Foul by Cameron Brannagan (Liverpool.
40:03 Craig Woodman (Exeter City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
39:10 Jordon Ibe (Liverpool hits the bar with a left footed shot from the right side of the box. Assisted by Cameron Brannagan following a corner.
38:52 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Troy Brown.
38:30 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Robert Olejnik.
38:27 Attempt saved. Jordon Ibe (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner.
37:54 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Danny Butterfield.
37:53 Attempt blocked. Joe Allen (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Jordon Ibe.
34:26 Offside, Exeter City. Craig Woodman tries a through ball, but Troy Brown is caught offside.
33:49 Foul by Brad Smith (Liverpool.
33:49 Alex Nicholls (Exeter City wins a free kick on the right wing.
32:01 Foul by Christian Benteke (Liverpool.
32:01 Christian Ribeiro (Exeter City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
28:54 Attempt missed. Cameron Brannagan (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is just a bit too high. Assisted by Brad Smith.
27:08 Foul by Joe Allen (Liverpool.
27:08 Lee Holmes (Exeter City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
25:41 Foul by José Enrique (Liverpool.
25:41 Jordan Moore-Taylor (Exeter City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
24:58 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Robert Olejnik.
24:57 Attempt saved. Cameron Brannagan (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Christian Benteke.
24:52 Attempt blocked. Christian Benteke (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.
23:37 Joe Allen (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.
23:37 Foul by Arron Davies (Exeter City.
22:05 Attempt missed. Christian Benteke (Liverpool header from the right side of the six yard box is close, but misses to the right. Assisted by Cameron Brannagan with a cross following a corner.
21:34 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Troy Brown.
20:42 Offside, Exeter City. Craig Woodman tries a through ball, but Lee Holmes is caught offside.
19:43 Attempt missed. Christian Benteke (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the right.
19:27 Attempt saved. Jordon Ibe (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Connor Randall.
18:22 Christian Benteke (Liverpool hits the bar with a header from very close range. Assisted by João Teixeira with a cross.
16:03 Foul by Brad Smith (Liverpool.
16:03 Matt Oakley (Exeter City wins a free kick in the defensive half.
9:40Goal scored Goal!Goal! Liverpool 1, Exeter City 0. Joe Allen (Liverpool right footed shot from very close range to the bottom left corner. Assisted by Brad Smith.
7:49 Joe Allen (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
7:49 Foul by Clinton Morrison (Exeter City.
4:30 Attempt saved. Christian Benteke (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Kevin Stewart with a headed pass.
3:45 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Christian Ribeiro.
3:15 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Craig Woodman.
1:00 Foul by Alex Nicholls (Exeter City.
1:00 Tiago Ilori (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
0:00 First Half begins.
0:00 Lineups are announced and players are warming up.

*Compiled by Graeme Riley*