

Date: 30 January 2016

Opposition: West Ham United

Competition: FA Cup

Echo	Sunday Times	Times	Guardian
BBC	Sun Independent	Telegraph	Mirror
	Sun Telegraph	Independent	Mail

30 January 2016

THE



TIMES

Klopp diplomacy put to test as fixtures pile up

Liverpool 0

West Ham United 0

Referee: M Atkinson Attendance: 44,006

The mores of Anglo-German diplomacy prevented the usually forthright Jurgen Klopp from speaking his mind on Saturday, although he could not entirely disguise his thoughts. Asked several different ways whether cup replays were an extravagance that English football could do without, the Liverpoolmanager's attempts to answer the question without answering it were arguably more entertaining than the game he had just watched.

"I don't say anything." Klopp said before saying plenty. "These are your rules and I think most of them are older than we are. I think you would say I'm crazy if I sit there, punch the air and say, 'Yeah, another game -- let us play five!" " Then, asked if there are any replays in Germany, Klopp replied: "Of course not. They have one cup competition less too; I can write it down for you if you like. Now usually we have extra time, then a penalty shoot-out, which was so exciting like we saw against Stoke City [in Liverpool's Capital One Cup semi-final win], and we go home with a winner and a loser.

"There is a debate, but I come from Germany, and I am coming from the outside, so I cannot lead the community and say, 'Come on, let's make a 16-team league' or something like this. I love football, usually I can not get enough of it, but sometimes it's a bit different."

It is also revealing that since taking over from Brendan Rodgers in mid-October, Liverpool have played 26 games. During the same period, Borussia Dortmund, his former club, have had 12 fixtures fewer and have also enjoyed a winter break in Dubai. Whatever the diplomatic niceties that Klopp feels the need to conform to, it would be a statement of the obvious to point out that the physical toll faced by Barclays Premier League clubs is an excessive one.

If those demands have brought a positive for Klopp it is that he has, through necessity, discovered hidden depths to the squad that he inherited from Rodgers.

Against West Ham United, it was the players whose presence supposedly made Liverpool a weakened team who shone, none more so than Cameron Brannagan, a teenage midfield player, who played with ingenuity and no little quality throughout an otherwise drab draw.

"The good thing is if we hadn't had so many injuries and so many games then we wouldn't have seen these guys, so that is a positive," the Liverpool manager said.

"Some people asked before the game if it was disrespectful to the FA Cup to play this team, but it wasn't easy to stay friendly with that question, because it shows nobody is interested in our situation.

"They [West Ham] had three games less than we had and all I hear is I select young lads because I don't want to go through. What? That is the only way for us to go through in our situation.

"If we don't want any more injuries that's what we have to do."

Perhaps it was no coincidence that it was two of the players who had played the least first-team football this season who emerged as the game's outstanding performers.

Brannagan made the most of his fourth start for Liverpool, while Darren Randolph excelled as Adrian's deputy on his fifth full game of the campaign for West Ham as fresh bodies made for fresh minds. By contrast, it was those on show who has most first team exposure -- Christian Benteke, Jordon Ibe, Pedro Obiang and Victor Moses -- who appeared most underwhelmed. On this occasion, less was most definitely more.

Randolph believes that West Ham are now favourites to reach the fifth round through the replay a week tomorrow, particularly having noted Liverpool's fixture schedule.

"We feel confident of going up against anyone at home now," he said. "We were confident of getting another good result here, because we said before the game that since we played them at the Boleyn Ground a few weeks back, we've played three games and they'd had seven." Not that Klopp is counting.

Midweek matches: Liverpool away to Leicester City (tomorrow); West Ham at home to Aston Villa, tomorrow.

RATINGS

Liverpool (4-3-2-1): S Mignolet 5 -- N Clyne 6, S Caulker 6, D Lovren 6, B Smith 7 -- C Brannagan 8 (sub: J Sinclair, 86min), K Stewart 7, J Allen 7 -- J Ibe 5 (sub: S Ojo, 80), J Teixeira 6 (sub: J Enrique, 89) -- C Benteke 5. Substitutes not used: D Ward, T Ilori, C Randall, P Chirivella. Booked: Lovren.

West Ham United (4-2-3-1): D Randolph 8 -- J Tomkins 6 (sub: J O'Brien, 35 S), W Reid 6, A Ogbonna 6, A Cresswell 6 -- P Obiang 5, A Song 6 -- C Kouyate 6 (sub: N Jelavic, 37 S), V Moses 5 (sub: M Antonio, 70) -- E Valencia 5.

Substitutes not used: S Howes, J Collins, R Oxford, J Cullen.

the

guardian

West Ham stand firm at Liverpool to earn FA Cup fourth-round replay

Jürgen Klopp and Slaven Bilic fell about laughing when Joey O'Brien sliced a rare opportunity for West Ham United into the cold and presumably bored spectators in the Anfield Road. They had to find entertainment somewhere, to be fair, as there was precious little on offer in an all-Premier League affair that produced only another date in the congested diaries of Liverpool and West Ham.

A replay “is not what we want”, said Klopp on the eve of the fourth-round tie, but a replay is what he got following a lacklustre contest of more long-term positives than incident. Cameron Brannagan, Kevin Stewart and João Carlos Teixeira took their latest opportunities to impress for Liverpool in the FA Cup while the visiting goalkeeper Darren Randolph was instrumental in delivering the stalemate.

West Ham won the trophy when they completed a league double over Liverpool in 1963-64, a feat they only repeated this season, and will rate their chances of a hat-trick of victories on home soil with Klopp pledging to field a similar team for the replay.

“I don't know where they will find a place for the replay, maybe in a morning when we play in an afternoon,” said the sardonic Liverpool manager following his team’s ninth game in 29 days. They will play eight matches next month, including the Capital One Cup final, should they overcome West Ham at Upton Park.

“The most important thing is everyone could see our lineup was not disrespectful to the FA Cup. It was the other way around. We thought this was the best chance for us to go through. This young team did really well.

“They played not too often together but they did well. We had a good structure, we had chances and we should have scored in one of the other situations. Now we play again.”

Bilic concurred: “Nobody is crazy about the replays but we can live with that. We got the clean sheet, we deserved the replay and now it will be one of those historical FA Cup nights at Upton Park.”

Both managers rang the changes with goalkeeper Simon Mignolet the only Liverpool player to start here and in Tuesday’s Capital One Cup semi-final win over Stoke City. It was a credit to the home side’s young players in particular that the clearer threat and understanding came from those in red. Dimitri Payet apart, West Ham were subdued in their attempts to strike on the counterattack although Enner Valencia and Cheikhou Kouyaté should have done better on the end of inviting crosses.

Advertisement

Stewart was a tenacious presence in the holding role, Brannagan brought composure and accuracy while Teixeira’s touch improved gradually against a disrupted visiting defence. First-choice goalkeeper Adrián had returned home to Seville to attend the birth of his first child. James Tomkins returned at right-back with Sam Byram Cup-tied and Carl Jenkinson a long-term absentee, but was forced off with 13 stitches in a head wound following a clash with Joe Allen, Klopp’s seventh captain since he became Liverpool manager. Kouyaté was also withdrawn in the first half as a precaution against a groin problem and the changes told on West Ham’s display.

A sterile Cup tie was in desperate need of incident and more alert officials might have provided it when Steven Caulker handled inside the Liverpool area shortly after the restart. Substitute Nikica Jelavic flicked Payet’s free-kick into a crowded six-yard box, in mitigation to the officials, and Liverpool’s on-loan defender raised his arm to make contact with the ball before the danger was cleared. A reprieve.

Bilic admitted: “Because the benches are too close like in the British parliament, and we are democrats of course, we had few calls, they shouted few times and the crowd shouted all the time, but I didn’t see it.”

The home side should have capitalised when Nathaniel Clyne presented Allen with a clear sight of goal but, under little pressure and 18 yards out, the midfielder blazed over. Randolph’s goal came under sustained pressure midway through the second half. Allen failed to pick out Christian Benteke when free inside the box, Randolph saved twice from Teixeira and the former Aston Villa forward completely miscued when Stewart’s shot dropped into his path in front of goal.

Liverpool’s brightest moment brought out the best in West Ham’s stand-in keeper. Randolph made three fine saves in quick succession as Benteke met Jordon Ibe’s measured pass with a first-time shot, Allen charged in for the rebound and then the Belgian had a second bite. The West Ham substitute Michail Antonio headed against a post in the final minute but only after Aaron Cresswell’s cross had sailed out of play. The replay no one wanted cannot be worse.

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LIVERPOOL

ECHO

Klopp's faith in youth rewarded but no way through

There were no fireworks this time. No dramatic late twist in the tale. From the dizzy heights of the 5-4 thriller with Norwich City and the midweek penalty shootout triumph over Stoke City which secured their passage to Wembley, Liverpool came back down to earth with a dour goalless draw against West Ham at Anfield.

Jurgen Klopp's faith in youth was rewarded as a shadow side exceeded all expectations against a full strength Hammers.

Yet that sense of satisfaction was tempered by the knowledge that Liverpool had squandered a glorious opportunity to march into the fifth round of the FA Cup. The Reds should have been celebrating a victory to cherish considering the personnel they had on duty.

But instead on a day when Klopp rested all his star names his only reward is another fixture to be crammed into a hectic schedule.

Having waved goodbye to Upton Park earlier this month, Liverpool will head back there one final time and it's a midweek trip in the capital they could have done without.

Selection vindicated

Klopp will feel that his selection was vindicated. Liverpool remain in the FA Cup and his first choice line up will be refreshed and ready for Tuesday night's trip to Premier League leaders Leicester City.

But the manager will surely regret not having a bit more quality on the bench capable of settling this tie at the first attempt. West Ham won't be this poor in the replay.

The failings were painfully familiar as chances went begging and the Reds' dominance went unrewarded.

West Ham keeper Darren Randolph was exceptional but there were times when he should have been taken out of the equation.

Christian Benteke endured yet another day to forget as his barren run stretched to nine matches.

Just as in the previous round against Exeter, the £32.5million frontman was put in the shade by the contribution of the rookies all around him.

Rather than stake a claim for a starting spot at Leicester on Tuesday, Benteke merely showed why he will be relegated to bench duty once again.

This was the third time in four home matches that Liverpool have failed to score and that lack of firepower remains a major concern ahead of Monday night's transfer deadline.

Their pursuit of Shakhtar Donetsk attacker Alex Teixeira looks destined to end in defeat and unless they quickly come up with a Plan B Klopp is going to be left worryingly short in the striking department between now and May.

Fifth game in 13 days

With Liverpool facing a fifth game in the space of 13 days and their ninth during a gruelling January, Klopp made 10 changes with only Simon Mignolet retained following the Capital One Cup semi-final with Stoke.

Youngsters Brad Smith, Kevin Stewart, Cameron Brannagan and Joao Carlos Teixeira had just 11 starts between them but they could all hold their heads high. Having shone against Exeter, they handled the step up in class with aplomb.

Brannagan, who was a hive of activity throughout, was the pick of the bunch as the exciting teenager produced another fearless display.

There were times when it resembled a Dads v Lads match in midfield such as West Ham's greater size and physicality.

However, what Brannagan and Stewart lacked in stature they made up for with their commitment, composure and work rate.

Brannagan used the ball intelligently and surged forward with intent. The 19-year-old midfielder fired over after Jordon Ibe's mazy run early on and his deadball deliveries were better than anything Anfield had previously seen this season.

Stewart, who was sent off playing for Liverpool Under-21s against Tottenham earlier in the week, provided the combative edge as he snapped into tackles and at one stage put Alex Song on his backside.

Klopp liked what he saw and the manager was applauding above his head after some slick interplay between Ibe and Teixeira carved the visitors apart.

From the ensuing corner, Brannagan picked out Benteke, whose header was hacked off the line.

West Ham, who had won 3-0 at Anfield in August en route to their first double over Liverpool for 52 years, created little as an attacking force with Steven Caulker relatively untroubled on his full debut.

Dimitri Payet tried to catch Mignolet out at his near post from a free-kick but only found the side netting.

There was a let-off when the unmarked Enner Valencia got his header horribly wrong from Aaron Cresswell's cross, but for the most part Liverpool were on the front foot.

Plenty of their best moments came through stand-in skipper Joe Allen, who maintained his recent resurgence.

Teixeira's creative spark

Teixeira gave Liverpool the kind of creative spark which was so lacking against Stoke. The Portuguese attacker's through ball released Benteke only for Randolph

to rush out and save at his feet.

Brannagan then saw his sweetly-struck 25-yarder tipped behind.

Considering Alberto Moreno's recent slump in form, the left-back spot is up for grabs and young Aussie Smith furthered his claims with another mature display.

In the second half Dimitri Payet's free-kick was flicked on by substitute Nikica Jelavic and struck Caulker's arm but the visitors' appeals for a penalty were waved away.

There were moments of alarm like when Mignolet flapped at a long throw but Liverpool were never under the cosh.

The hosts always looked the more likely winners. Allen hammered into the Kop after being teed up by Nathaniel Clyne before Teixeira was twice denied by Randolph.

Benteke's struggles were epitomised by the sight of him inadvertently clearing rather scoring after Stewart volley's dropped to his feet.

With 15 minutes to go Randolph produced a remarkable triple save to keep the Reds at bay.

First, the Republic of Ireland international pushed away Benteke's low strike from Ibe's incisive pass. He was up quickly to stop Allen and then Benteke from tucking away the loose ball.

There was no way through. Frustration reigned.

MATCH FACTS

Liverpool: Mignolet, Clyne, Caulker, Lovren, Smith, Stewart, Allen, Brannagan (Sinclair 86), Ibe (Ojo 80), Teixeira (Enrique 90), Benteke

Not used: Ward, Ilori, Chirivella Randall

West Ham: Randolph, Tomkins (O'Brien 35), Reid, Ogbonna, Cresswell, Obiang, Song, Kouyate (Jelavic 37), Moses (Antonio 70), Payet, Valencia.

Not used: Howes, Collins, Oxford, Cullen

Referee: Martin Atkinson

Attendance: 44,006

Bookings: Lovren

Man of the match: Cameron Brannagan. The teenage midfielder was the pick of the Reds' youngsters.

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Hammers still have hope of Moore joy

Fifty-two years have passed since Liverpool recovered from the jolt of West Ham completing the double over them in the League by securing the First Division title under Bill Shankly. It was a season, indeed, which culminated with Bobby Moore as an FA Cup-winning captain.

While Liverpool are in no position to win the title in 2016, hope remains for West Ham, who will have another stab at repeating their feat a week on Tuesday, despite missing an opportunity presented to them here by Jrgen Klopp, who has not afforded the Cup a priority status.

As the hailstones battered Merseyside and the gale force winds roared in from the Irish Sea, Slaven Bilic started in his technical area without a coat, his beanie hat the only sign of the adverse conditions. His appearance suggested he was ready to meet the challenge. His team proved they were not.

That Klopp did not know the date of the replay afterwards partly explained his severely weakened selection. This was Liverpool's ninth game in 29 days and having reached the League Cup final - but only after 120 minutes against Stoke on Tuesday night - he deemed it necessary to change all his outfield players.

"Maybe we will play again in the morning or the afternoon, I don't know when we'll fit it in," he joked.

Klopp had revealed before that there would be some rotation and perhaps Bilic took encouragement, deciding to go a lot stronger than previously suggested. Had captain Mark Noble not succumbed to flu, the only player rested here would have been the goalkeeper Adrian, who had been given paternity leave and flew back to Seville on Friday.

The prospect of another game was met as enthusiastically by Bilic as it was by Klopp. "Nobody is crazy about the replay at this stage of the season but we can live with it," he said. He was honest too about Liverpool's dominance in the second half when their energy in pressing led to a series of potentially match-winning chances, though he reasoned injuries sustained before the break disrupted West Ham's rhythm.

Cheikhou Kouyat[c] and James Tomkins did not finish the half . Kouyat[c]'s exit, later explained by Bilic as a groin strain, initially seemed more mysterious than the one made by Tomkins, who bloodied his head in colliding with Kevin Stewart. That Tomkins needed 13 stitches reflected the enthusiasm of Stewart, who began the month on the bench at Swindon Town in League One before he was summoned back to Melwood as Liverpool's injury problems mounted.

Stewart, indeed, clattered into each of his midfield opponents in quick succession at the very beginning and Klopp commended him for his level of concentration, operating in an area flooded with seasoned internationals.

The former Tottenham Hotspur trainee played in the same youth sides as Harry Kane before making the journey north with Liverpool's academy director Alex Inglethorpe after both had been released from White Hart Lane.

Yet with his contract set to expire in the summer, Stewart, at 22, will appreciate there is not likely to be a third chance at another Premier League club. "He did very, very well," Klopp admitted.

In being named as captain, Joe Allen became the seventh player to lead Liverpool in the 24 games since Klopp's appointment. He and Cameron Brannagan acted as bloodhounds, closing down the space where Dimitri Payet has been so dangerous since his arrival at West Ham. The French winger's involvement was minimal. In the first half, he nearly caught out the Liverpool goalkeeper Simon Mignolet through deception, shaping to cross from a free-kick only to shoot.

In the second half, another dead ball nearly resulted in the visitors' opener. Nikica Jelavic, on for Kouyat[c], flicking on the delivery, which Mignolet somehow saved. That Steven Caulker's handball in the subsequent scrimmage was missed by referee Martin Atkinson clearly irritated Bilic and his mood visibly worsened when Dejan Lovren escaped a red card after lunging with two feet at Victor Moses when already on a booking.

Diplomatically, perhaps, Bilic claimed ignorance in relation to the first incident. "The benches here are close like in British Parliament so I could not see," he insisted.

Liverpool: (4-3-3) Mignolet; Clyne, Caulker, Lovren, Smith; Brannagan (Sinclair, 85), Stewart, Allen; Ibe (Ojo, 79), Benteke, Teixeira (Enrique, 89).

West Ham: (4-3-3) Randolph; Tomkins (O'Brien, 34), Reid, Ogbonna, Cresswell; Kouyat[c] (Jelavic, 36), Song, Obiang; Moses (Antonio, 69), Valencia, Payet.

Referee: Martin Atkinson

Man of the match: Stewart (Liverpool)

Match rating: 5/10

The Sunday Telegraph

West Ham thwart Liverpool to earn replay

Liverpool 0

West Ham United 0

Att: 44,006

This was FA Cup football with the Premier League handbrake on: two teams anticipating midweek league fixtures and assigning only as much resources to a fourth-round tie as their respective managers might dare, given the challenges that lie ahead.

Both clubs play in the league on Tuesday night and having failed to decide this tie on the night they will have to reconvene at the Boleyn Ground in the week after next. There were too few chances to decide it, although a much less experienced Liverpool team than their West Ham opponents shaded it in terms of performance - the question will be whether Jurgen Klopp commits more first-team players to the replay.

Klopp already has his place at Wembley next month for the Capital One Cup final against Manchester City. Slaven Bilic would like to take West Ham there to deliver a major trophy for the club for the first time in 36 years at the club to mark their departure from the Boleyn Ground.

As promised by Klopp there were major changes to his Liverpool side that lost to Stoke City on Tuesday but prevailed on penalties. There were 10 new players and while they included no debuts five of them from the development sides in Klopp's first XI, including new loanee Steven Caulker, had never started a league game for the club.

Against a much more experienced West Ham side - just the six changes from the team that drew with Manchester City the previous weekend - Klopp's improvised blend of youth and experience acquitted themselves well in a low-key first half. There was Christian Benteke to aim at in attack and Joe Allen lurking in midfield. Simon Mignolet, the only survivor from Tuesday, and Dejan Lovren provided the experience.

Benteke had a header cleared off the line by Aaron Cresswell. The 23-year-old Portuguese attacker Joao Teixeira had a shot well saved by the West Ham goalkeeper Darren Randolph, the Irish second choice to Adrian. Randolph also did well to push a shot from Benteke wide of the post.

Memories of the great 2006 FA Cup final between these two clubs felt rather distant as neither side looked prepared to take a risk in the first half. Dimitri Payet, one of the genuinely interesting players in the English top flight, was barely on the ball. Jordon Ibe's strong running from midfield was at a minimum.

Bilic's plans were changed by successive injuries to James Tomkins and Cheikhou Kouyate, which required the West Ham manager to make two substitutions before half-time. The loss of Kouyate in particular cost his team, because the Senegalese is such an elegant patroller of the midfield.

He moves from one penalty area to the other with what seems like a few strides of those long legs and he was missed by his team.

Tomkins had been played at rightback by his manager and came off with a cut to his head. Kouyate was replaced by Nikica Jelavic which necessitated a rejig of the West Ham formation.

Payet's free-kick delivery was excellent, although he did linger in possession too long at times. One dead ball from the left was headed on by Jelavic and precipitated a handball appeal against Caulker.

There were few chances for Liverpool. Allen leant back and sent a cut a back from Caulker skywards on 55 minutes. Then Cameron Brannagan dispossessed Payet and the ball was worked out right by Benteke to Allen who could not get his cross into the area.

A shot from Kevin Stewart on 68 minutes reached Benteke's feet unexpectedly and he did not react in time to do anything with it. Stewart, 22, released by Spurs two years ago and a veteran of the loan system that provides temporary homes for footballers in their early-20s, acquitted himself well. He made his debut in the previous round's two games against Exeter City. But there was precious little sign of a cutting edge in both attacks.

Allen launched himself at a Nathaniel Clyne cross on 73 minutes and was mid-air and looking set for the Mark Hughes-standard flying volley when his technique seemed to be interrupted by a shove from an opponent. The ball fell to Ibe and then Teixeira but neither could finish.

Soon after, Randolph stopped three attempts in quick succession, twice from Benteke and once from Allen. Legs were tiring and at last both sides were taking a few risks. Klopp sent on Sheyi Ojo and Jerome Sinclair to try to force the issue but this never felt like an urgent, important cup tie despite the fact that both these clubs could really do with a trophy of this magnitude.

The replay will be unwelcome for them both although before that there is Leicester City on Tuesday for Klopp's side. It took them two games to get past Exeter too in the previous round and theLiverpool manager will hardly be delighted to get another double-header against challenging opposition.

Klopp sent on the lesser-spotted Jose Enrique for the last couple of minutes of the game and he duly drove a promising free-kick into the West Ham defensive wall.

The West Ham substitute Michail Antonio hit the post with a header later on but had already been penalised for a foul by referee Martin Atkinson. It was one of those evenings.

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 THE SUNDAY TIMES Randolph bars way to Klopp's young stars Well, it was not the 2006 final, when the goals and the drama kept coming all the way into stoppage time. Another draw, and not 3-3, but that hated scoreline, 0-0. There was enough to leave you intrigued by the replay though. Will Jurgen Klopp play a more experienced XI at Upton Park? Will Slaven Bilic retain some of the first-choice players who underwhelmed here? In many ways, this was an odd tie. The worst performers were the ones who were most expected to perform, while the stars were Klopp's kids. The spark of Cameron Brannagan, the maturity of Kevin Stewart, the feistiness of Brad Smith and -- most of all -- the craft of Joao Teixeira were the mementoes, in lieu of goals, to take away from an Arctic Anfield. These youngsters kept Liverpool just slightly on top, overall, in a game where you expected West Ham's greater nous and superior physicality to prevail. Klopp, happily for him, sees a glass half-full and preferred to celebrate his "boys" rather than cry about the extra game, even if Liverheavy pool are beginning to take on some workload. After nine matches inside 29 days in January, they face another eight -- if they win the replay -- in a 26-day period in February. This, with their injury list. Klopp rejected the idea that the pile-up adds pressure to sign somebody before tomorrow's transfer deadline but he couldn't hide his hope, in a coy answer about transfers, that something -- and that something is principally Alex Teixeira -- gets done. West Ham demonstrated the value of squad depth. With Adrian in Seville waiting for his partner to give birth, Slaven Bilic's No 2 goalkeeper, Darren Randolph, performed like a top No 1, especially in a secondhalf stretch when, in front of the Kop, Teixeira led an assault on his goal. Bilic "is not crazy" about a replay but promised "it will be another historical night at Upton Park (lose and it's West Ham's last cup tie there) and we will try." Klopp might feel, with a striker in a better moment than Christian Benteke, he would have won, but Bilic could say that with a referee in better form than Martin Atkinson, West Ham would have taken control. Atkinson made some strange calls and denying West Ham a penalty in the 49th minute was X-Files stuff. Dimitri Payet curled in a free kick, which Nikica Jelavic flicked towards goal and, with Winston Reid waiting, Steven Caulker stopped the ball with his hand. It wasn't even debatable. Caulker stuck out his arm as carefully as a wine waiter to retrieve Payet's delivery. Perhaps Atkinson just didn't see it. You'd worry if he did. Bilic, though, is a sanguine sort of manager. "When you're on the bench you are like in the British parliament -- we are democrats, of course -- and we had a few calls and they had a few calls and, of course, the crowd shouted all the time," he said. Bilic said he had expected a strong home performance, despite the 10 changes in Klopp's line-up. It seemed West Ham had a midfield with the power and knowledge to trample all over Liverpool's but it didn't work out that way. Stewart, 22, and Brannagan, 19, gave energetic and fearlessly assertive performances. Ahead of them, Teixeira was seldom contained. In a full-throttle first half, too full-on for guile to flourish, Brannagan conjured the most skilful moment, dribbling 20 yards then striking a clean and powerful shot that had Randolph fully stretched as he saved. West Ham had just lost James Tomkins, taken out by 5ft 6in Joe Allen in a clash of heads. That seemed typical of how Liverpool, in reality, proved far more formidable than they'd looked on paper. Tomkins required 13 stitches. Bilic also had to replace Cheikhou Kouyate with Jelavic after Kouyate hurt his groin. Atkinson, oddly, allowed Simon Mignolet to pick up a Brad Smith back-pass and West Ham's frustration grew. Payet couldn't settle on the ball and Enner Valencia struggled as the lone striker. A golden chance turned to brass when Valencia, in space and six yards out, headed a cross back out towards the wing. Liverpool's lone striker was toiling too. Teixeira fed a pass through but Benteke wasn't sharp enough to beat Randolph to the ball. Liverpool had zip elsewhere, and a fast counterattack, that began with Jordan Ibe nutmegging Alex Song, brought Ibe to the edge of West Ham's area where he exchanged neat passes with Teixeira, only for Reid, diving desperately, to block Ibe's centre as it was bound for Benteke. Just before half-time, Pedro Obiang volleyed close from outside the box and, just after it, Caulker had his great handball escape, but Liverpool then took control. Stewart, Brannagan and Teixiera continued outshining the likes of Benteke and Lovren. A terrific Teixeira shot forced a fine parry from Randolph. Then, from Stewart's delivery, Teixeira volleyed at goal and Benteke, excruciatingly, ballooned his touch when the ball came to him sharply, close in. Randolph was increasingly West Ham's key figure, parrying brilliantly from Teixeira when the Portuguese shot after Allen completely missed a bicycle kick, then saving from Benteke and Allen when Liverpool tried to scramble in a winner. Bilic, having started in a suit, was wrapped in a padded jacket throughout the second half. The conditions -- and hosts -- proved less hospitable than he might have expected. But a replay at Upton Park after getting away with a disappointing display? He'll take it. Liverpool: Mignolet 6, Clyne 6, Caulker 5, Lovren 5, Smith 7, Brannagan 7 (Sinclair 86min, 5), Stewart 7, Ibe 6 (Ojo 80min, 5), Teixeira 8 (J Enrique 90min, 5), Allen 6, Benteke 5 West Ham: Randolph 8, Tomkins 4 (O'Brien 35min, 6), Reid 6, Ogbonna 6, Cresswell 5, Song 6, Kouyate 5 (Jelavic 37min, 6), Obiang 6, Moses 4 (Antonio 70min, 5), Payet 5, Valencia 4 						

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BBC

An inexperienced Liverpool side were frustrated by West Ham goalkeeper Darren Randolph as their FA Cup fourth-round tie ended in a goalless draw.

The Hammers had early chances but an unmarked Enner Valencia misjudged a header and Pedro Obiang volleyed wide. Randolph twice blocked powerful Joao Teixeira efforts and also saved shots from Cameron Brannagan, Joe Allen and Christian Benteke. But neither side could score and they will meet again in a replay in London.

The worst possible result for Liverpool?

Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp played a youthful side in the third-round match and subsequent replay against Exeter, but included a mixture of first-team players and youngsters for the visit of the Hammers. Goalkeeper Simon Mignolet, 27, was the oldest player in the Reds' starting line-up, which also included four players - Brad Smith, Cameron Brannagan, Kevin Stewart and Joao Teixeira - who had never started a Premier League match. This was the ninth game that Liverpool had played in January, and they desperately did not want another match, but that is exactly what they got. It means their schedule in February will now include at least seven matches, including the League Cup final, two Europa League matches, three Premier League games and one, maybe two, FA Cup ties.

Nevertheless, Klopp will feel his side should have won. A poor touch when only six yards out to waste a chance summed up another ineffective performance from an out-of-form Christian Benteke. Liverpool were the better team in the second half and created numerous chances, but stand-in captain Allen shot harmlessly over, and Brannagan, Teixeira and Benteke had shots saved by Randolph.

How did Liverpool's youngsters do?

Generally, they were very impressive. Brannagan, 19, who consistently impressed with his set-piece delivery, nearly opened the scoring with a powerful shot from 20 yards out, but goalkeeper Randolph did well to push the ball around the post. Brad Smith, 21, produced an energetic performance at left-back, often getting forward to help his side's attacks, while handling the threat from the quick Victor Moses with maturity. Kevin Stewart, 22, a tough-tackling central midfielder, worked hard, making six tackles and two interceptions, and 23-year-old Joao Teixeira, playing on the left side of Liverpool's front three, was twice denied by a diving Randolph.

A wasted opportunity for West Ham?

Three-time winners West Ham were aiming to reach the fifth round of the FA Cup for the fourth time in the last eight seasons - and will have been buoyed when they saw the Liverpool line-up. They themselves made five changes, although fielded a team rich in Premier League experience apart from Randolph, who played because regular goalkeeper Adrian was back in his native Spain for family reasons. Yet the Hammers could not take full advantage. They kept trying to utilise Victor Moses' pace against Brad Smith down the right wing, but the defender often came out on top before Moses was withdrawn midway through the second half. Slaven Bilic will argue that West Ham should have had a penalty, when Steven Caulker appeared to handle in the penalty area, but the Hammers took 50 minutes to have their solitary shot on target.

Man of the Match - Darren Randolph (West Ham)

What the managers said

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp said: "We had the bigger chances, but now we have to play again. West Ham have good quality in their team and play well in the league. We tried everything - you need a bit of luck. "I was pleased with the whole team. Steven Caulker played for the first time in his position in defence and did well, but I cannot fault anyone, they tried and gave all. We played much better than we did at West Ham [in the league], but we didn't score so it is not over. "The players we changed had the day off today so hopefully nothing happened to them."

West Ham boss Slaven Bilic said: "They had a few moments, we had a few moments. They were better in the second half - they could run more and were better at winning the second balls so it is a great result for us. "We lacked that kind of quality we normally have in the last third of the pitch, so overall I am happy with the result. "When you make two subs in the first half your hands are tied in the second half. It limited our options and we had to wait to make a third substitution. Kouyate should be OK for Tuesday hopefully."

Asked if they should have had a penalty for a Steven Caulker handball, Bilic said: "I didn't see the replays so I can't comment. I shouted a few times, they shouted a few times, the crowd shouted a few times, but that is part of the game."

The stats you need to know

Liverpool have now not lost in their last seven FA Cup meetings with the Hammers (won four, drew three).

The Hammers have won just one of their last nine FA Cup games away from home (drew two, lost six).

In all competitions, West Ham United have won just two of their last 11 away matches (won two, drew five, lost four).

What next?

Both teams are next in Premier League action on Tuesday. Liverpool travel to Premier League leaders Leicester City, while West Ham welcome the division's bottom team Aston Villa to Upton Park.

Date: 30 January 2016 Opposition: West Ham United Competition: FA Cup	Echo	Sunday Times	Times	Guardian		30 January 2016
	BBC	Sun Independent	Telegraph	Mirror		
		Sun Telegraph	Independent	Mail		
BBC Match ends, Liverpool 0, West Ham United 0. 90'+4' Second Half ends, Liverpool 0, West Ham United 0. 90'+1' José Enrique (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half. 90'+1' Foul by Michail Antonio (West Ham United. 90'+1' Foul by Christian Benteke (Liverpool. 90'+1' Angelo Ogbonna (West Ham United wins a free kick in the defensive half. 90' Substitution, Liverpool. José Enrique replaces João Teixeira. 89' Brad Smith (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half. 89' Foul by Pedro Obiang (West Ham United. 88' Jerome Sinclair (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half. 88' Foul by Pedro Obiang (West Ham United. 87' Corner, West Ham United. Conceded by Steven Caulker. 87' Attempt blocked. Michail Antonio (West Ham United right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Dimitri Payet. 86' Substitution, Liverpool. Jerome Sinclair replaces Cameron Brannagan. 86' Attempt missed. Kevin Stewart (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box is high and wide to the right following a set piece situation. 85' João Teixeira (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half. 85' Foul by Winston Reid (West Ham United. 84' Attempt missed. Joey O'Brien (West Ham United right footed shot from outside the box misses to the right. Assisted by Dimitri Payet. 83' Delay over. They are ready to continue. 82' Delay in match João Teixeira (Liverpool because of an injury. 80' Substitution, Liverpool. Sheyi Ojo replaces Jordon Ibe. 75' Attempt missed. Kevin Stewart (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is too high. Assisted by Nathaniel Clyne. 75' Attempt saved. Christian Benteke (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. 75' Attempt saved. Joe Allen (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. 75' Attempt saved. Christian Benteke (Liverpool right footed shot from the right side of the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Jordon Ibe with a through ball. 73' Attempt saved. João Teixeira (Liverpool left footed shot from the left side of the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Jordon Ibe. 70' Substitution, West Ham United. Michail Antonio replaces Victor Moses. 70' Foul by Nikica Jelavic (West Ham United. 70' Simon Mignolet (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half. 68' Attempt missed. Christian Benteke (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the right. Assisted by Kevin Stewart following a set piece situation. 68' Attempt missed. Kevin Stewart (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the left following a set piece situation. 67' Foul by Enner Valencia (West Ham United. 67' Kevin Stewart (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half. 66' Attempt missed. Brad Smith (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the left. Assisted by João Teixeira. 63' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Darren Randolph. 63' Attempt saved. João Teixeira (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box is saved in the top left corner. Assisted by Brad Smith. 63' Offside, West Ham United. Dimitri Payet tries a through ball, but Aaron Cresswell is caught offside. 62' Alexandre Song (West Ham United wins a free kick in the defensive half. 62' Foul by João Teixeira (Liverpool. 61' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Angelo Ogbonna. 60' Attempt missed. Joe Allen (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is too high. 59' Hand ball by Alexandre Song (West Ham United. 56' Foul by Joey O'Brien (West Ham United. 56' João Teixeira (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing. 54' Dejan Lovren (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul. 54' Victor Moses (West Ham United wins a free kick in the attacking half. 54' Foul by Dejan Lovren (Liverpool. 54' Foul by Enner Valencia (West Ham United. 54' Kevin Stewart (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half. 51' Attempt blocked. Enner Valencia (West Ham United right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. 51' Attempt missed. Nathaniel Clyne (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses the top left corner. 50' Attempt saved. Winston Reid (West Ham United right footed shot from very close range is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Angelo Ogbonna. 49' Nikica Jelavic (West Ham United wins a free kick on the left wing. 49' Foul by Steven Caulker (Liverpool. 48' Foul by Victor Moses (West Ham United. 48' Kevin Stewart (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half. Second Half begins Liverpool 0, West Ham United 0. 45'+4' First Half ends, Liverpool 0, West Ham United 0. 45'+1' Attempt missed. Pedro Obiang (West Ham United right footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left. 45' Joey O'Brien (West Ham United wins a free kick on the right wing. 45' Foul by Brad Smith (Liverpool. 44' Joey O'Brien (West Ham United wins a free kick on the right wing. 44' Foul by Joe Allen (Liverpool. 43' Darren Randolph (West Ham United wins a free kick in the defensive half. 43' Foul by Joe Allen (Liverpool. 43' Attempt blocked. Cameron Brannagan (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. 42' Foul by Winston Reid (West Ham United. 42' João Teixeira (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half. 40' Offside, West Ham United. Pedro Obiang tries a through ball, but Nikica Jelavic is caught offside. 39' Foul by Nikica Jelavic (West Ham United. 39' Cameron Brannagan (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half. 38' Joey O'Brien (West Ham United wins a free kick on the right wing. 38' Foul by Kevin Stewart (Liverpool. 37' Offside, Liverpool. Steven Caulker tries a through ball, but Christian Benteke is caught offside. 37' Substitution, West Ham United. Nikica Jelavic replaces Cheikhou Kouyaté because of an injury. 36' Foul by Dimitri Payet (West Ham United. 36' Kevin Stewart (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half. 35' Attempt missed. Steven Caulker (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is high and wide to the right. Assisted by Cameron Brannagan with a cross following a corner. 35' Substitution, West Ham United. Joey O'Brien replaces James Tomkins because of an injury. 35' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Darren Randolph. 35' Attempt saved. Cameron Brannagan (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Jordon Ibe. 33' Attempt blocked. Jordon Ibe (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by João Teixeira. 32' Delay over. They are ready to continue. 31' Delay in match James Tomkins (West Ham United because of an injury. 29' Cheikhou Kouyaté (West Ham United wins a free kick in the defensive half. 29' Foul by Steven Caulker (Liverpool. 29' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Winston Reid. 27' Pedro Obiang (West Ham United wins a free kick on the right wing. 27' Foul by Kevin Stewart (Liverpool. 23' Foul by Cheikhou Kouyaté (West Ham United. 23' João Teixeira (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing. 22' Attempt missed. Christian Benteke (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the right. Assisted by Cameron Brannagan with a cross following a corner. 22' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Winston Reid. 20' James Tomkins (West Ham United wins a free kick in the defensive half. 20' Foul by João Teixeira (Liverpool. 19' Alexandre Song (West Ham United wins a free kick in the defensive half. 19' Foul by Jordon Ibe (Liverpool. 16' Attempt missed. Enner Valencia (West Ham United header from the centre of the box misses to the left. Assisted by Aaron Cresswell with a cross. 15' Hand ball by Enner Valencia (West Ham United. 10' Dimitri Payet (West Ham United hits the right post with a right footed shot from long range on the right from a direct free kick. 10' Pedro Obiang (West Ham United wins a free kick on the right wing. 10' Foul by Kevin Stewart (Liverpool. 7' Attempt missed. Cameron Brannagan (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the left. 6' Corner, West Ham United. Conceded by Kevin Stewart. 6' Foul by Christian Benteke (Liverpool. 6' Cheikhou Kouyaté (West Ham United wins a free kick in the defensive half. 3' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by James Tomkins. First Half begins. Lineups are announced and players are warming up. 0						