Date: 11 May 2016
Opposition: Chelsea
Competition: League

Times	Telegraph	Echo
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11 May 2016

THE TIMES

Begovic blunder saves Liverpool after Hazard's wonder goal

Liverpool 1 Benteke 90+2 Chelsea 1 Hazard 32

If a wondrous goal provided a timely reminder of Eden Hazard's talent, his reinvigorated desire was underlined by an 81st-minute chase deep into his own half to dispossess Nathaniel Clyne in a game that meant little. The question of where Hazard has been for most of this season remains unanswered but he didn't just turn up at Anfield, he illuminated it, only to be denied match-winning status by an injury-time equaliser from Christian Benteke, his fellow Belgian, profiting from a mistake by Asmir Begovic, the Chelsea goalkeeper.

Jurgen Klopp's 50th game as Liverpool manager will be remembered mainly for Hazard's brilliance as his own team produced a performance that showed how far they still have to go regardless of their progress in Europe.

Not only could Liverpool not contain Hazard, an understandable weakness when he is on this kind of form, they had no one within their own ranks who came close to matching the threat that he carried. It was not until the second minute of stoppage time that Liverpool got an equalising goal that came by accident rather than by design but it extended their unbeaten home run to a 13th game.

Two years after this fixture helped dictate the outcome of the title race, the two sides met once more in altogether less exacting circumstances. Having described it beforehand as "one of the biggest fixtures in the world", though, Klopp fielded his strongest available line-up, the one that is expected to start next week's Europa League final.

Guus Hiddink also went strong, or as strong as he could in the circumstances with John Terry unavailable through suspension, Diego Costa, Branislav Ivanovic and Kurt Zouma all injured and Thibaut Courtois out due to illness.

Chelsea appeared weak early on with gaps opening up in their defence that Daniel Sturridge, in particular, was able to exploit as Liverpool went in search of an early goal that never came.

That approach nearly paid off after just five minutes when Sturridge and Alberto Moreno worked a shooting opportunity for Philippe Coutinho but the Brazilian's effort was charged down by Baba Rahman.

Adam Lallana saw a powerfully struck shot saved by Begovic before the goalkeeper produced a more routine stop to thwart Coutinho.

However despite having been stretched defensively and at times overrun in midfield, Chelsea were able to grow into the game with Hazard becoming increasingly prominent. That Liverpool had a problem first became clear after 22 minutes when Hazard found space on the edge of the penalty area that Simon Mignolet could only parry before Kolo Toure cleared.

If that was a warning it was one that Liverpool failed to heed as Hazard gave Chelsea the lead with the kind of goal that he had seemed to have lost from his repertoire during an exceedingly difficult season. Not here, though. This was the Hazard who makes mugs of defenders, inspires team mates and attracts covetous glances.

A clever give and go with Cesc Fabregas set Hazard in motion but what followed next was all about the brilliant Belgian as he weaved away from Lallana and Roberto Firmino, manipulating the ball at high speed until a shooting opportunity opened up.

When it did, Hazard opened up his body to create a natural angle to curl the ball around Mignolet and he did so to perfection. It was a reminder of why Hazard was PFA player of the year last season and why his fall from grace in this campaign has been so inexplicable.

Lifted by his brilliance, Chelsea should then have doubled their lead when Mignolet hesitated when Hazard's through ball released Bertrand Traore but the forward swept his shot wide. Hazard was tormenting Liverpool and they resorted to foul means to try to stop him with Emre Can and Toure both being booked for upending him. Hazard's one-man assault on Liverpool continued with another run and shot that Mignolet held at the second attempt. That provoked a reaction from Klopp's side with Lallana putting Sturridge clear only for the forward to shoot too close to Begovic.

The action continued to see-saw but it was Chelsea who carried the greater threat, as illustrated when Pedro and Traore brought saves from Mignolet.

Out of sheer desperation, Klopp replaced Toure with Sheyi Ojo in the final minutes and the winger almost made an immediate impact when he met Joe Allen's searching cross with a volley that missed the target. Ojo's next involvement proved critical, though, as his cross prompted a flap from Begovic which left Benteke to nod the loose ball over the line. All of Hazard's good work had been undone but at least on this occasion no-one could accuse him of not doing enough.

Liverpool (4-2-3-1): S Mignolet 5 ? N Clyne 5, D Lovren 5, K Toure 5 (sub: S Ojo, 87min), A Moreno 6 ? J Milner 6 (sub: J Allen, 75 6), E Can 6 ? A Lallana 6 (sub: C Benteke, 75 6), R Firmino 6, P Coutinho 6 ? D Sturridge 6. Substitutes not used: A Bogdan, M Skrtel, B Smith. Booked: Can, Toure, Milner.

Chelsea (4-2-3-1): A Begovic 6 ? C Azpilicueta 6, G Cahill 6, J Mikel 6, B Rahman 6 ? N Matic 6, C Fabregas 7 ? Willian 6 (sub: Kenedy, 57 6), E Hazard 9, Pedro 6 (sub: R Loftus-Cheek, 90) ? B Traore 6 (sub: T Abraham, 73 6). Substitutes not used: M Amelia, A Pato, K Palmer, T Abraham. Booked: Azpilicueta.

Referee: M Oliver.

theguardian

Liverpool's Christian Benteke pegs back Chelsea after Eden Hazard's stunner

A Belgium international belatedly illuminated Anfield, though it was not Christian Benteke with the injury-time equaliser that preserved Liverpool's unbeaten home run. Eden Hazard rolled back the months with a display reminiscent of his role in Chelsea's title victory last season but it is his country, not his club, that stands to benefit from his return to fitness and form.

Chelsea's away support chanted for a new contract for John Terry and unveiled a banner showing the trophies won under his stewardship complete with a call to "sign him up". Yet the performance of their mesmerising No10 showed there are other, younger assets that Stamford Bridge can ill-afford to lose this summer.

Hazard capped a fine evening with an outstanding individual goal, only his fourth in the Premier League this season, and his recovery comes just in time for Belgium's Euro 2016 campaign. But Guus Hiddink's team paid the price for failing to kill the contest in the second half.

"He had a difficult year," Hiddink, Chelsea's interim manager, said of the Belgian. "He was one of the best last year and this year he was falling into injury, coming back nearly, falling back into injury and that made him vulnerable physically. You get frustrated. The last few weeks he has been working on a programme to be fully fit and now steadily he has got his shape and then you can see what he is able to do. He has a lot of talent, is clever and can play one-on-one. He is conceding a lot of physical contacts but he goes on and it is nice to see. He is physically and mentally fit and it is a pleasure to see those sort of players."

For Jürgen Klopp, there was an element of fortune in Liverpool's unbeaten run at Anfield reaching game No13. A ninth Premier League defeat beckoned in the manager's 50th match in charge until the Chelsea goalkeeper Asmir Begovic was deceived by Sheyi Ojo's cross and pushed the ball on to the head of the waiting Benteke. The combination of the two Liverpool substitutes for the equaliser reflected well on the team's attitude and the manager's decision to go for broke, but Klopp will need much more from what appeared his Europa League final side when it reconvenes against Sevilla next week.

Klopp said: "For the first 15 minutes we played wonderful football without scoring and I said after the game it was the most important game of the season. We showed in the first 15 minutes what we were capable of. There was not enough faith in our own quality and so we lost patience and when you lose patience it is always difficult and we lost formation.

"We didn't defend together but we invested a lot and that made us tired. That was the problem of the game. Maybe they could have scored the second one but Simon Mignolet did brilliantly and Kolo [Touré] and Dejan [Lovren] saved our life at this moment. We had two or three really good moments and we used one to get a draw. The last 10 minutes it was not too lucky but we could have lost today."

Hazard opened the scoring with a quite exquisite goal. There was minimal threat to the home defence when the playmaker collected possession deep in the Liverpool half and even after exchanging passes with Cesc Fàbregas. But then he accelerated past four weak challenges with a deft touch and a drop of the shoulder and, from the edge of the penalty area, swept an outstanding finish into the far corner of Mignolet's goal. It served as a reminder of the form and talent that brought Hazard player of the year awards last season and has been sorely missed at Stamford Bridge for the majority of this campaign.

Bertrand Traoré, the youngster Tammy Abraham and Hazard all had chances to secure the away win but, with Mignolet saving well and opportunities wasted, Liverpool always had hope of a reprieve. Benteke provided it with a close-range header before Klopp led his squad on a lap of anticipation. It is now all about Sevilla.

Compiled by Graeme Riley

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The Mail

Hazard's moment of wonder

LIVERPOOL 1
Benteke 90
CHELSEA 1
Hazard 32

FIRST he jinked past Adam Lallana, then skipped away from Roberto Firmino. After that, he flummoxed James Milner and Emre Can before applying the coup de grace.

Using Dejan Lovren as a shield, he opened up his body and angled a right-foot shot that zipped into the side of the net, racing past Simon Mignolet before the goalkeeper had time to react. It was majestic, a moment to illuminate a humdrum game. It was, quite simply, an Eden Hazard moment.

Such snapshots of brilliance have been glaringly absent since last August. The man who provided the glitter on a season that ended with Chelsea being crowned champions has been anonymous for much of their limp defence but, at long last, here he was again.

Too little, too late, some will argue. This performance should have secured three points, but it couldn't even do that as Christian Benteke pilfered a late equaliser against the run of play following an error by Asmir Begovic.

Not so long ago, when the fires were lit by Jose Mourinho and Rafa Benitez, this was the game of the season, with rancour guaranteed on and off the pitch. Both sides loathed each other but the contempt was actually a catalyst for some absorbing, draining collisions.

This game, however, had the feel of an inconvenience, something that both sides could do without.Liverpool, for all that Jurgen Klopp protests, cannot think of anything other than a date in Basle on May 18 and Chelsea simply want this wretched campaign to end.

There was ambivalence in the away end -- save for the banner making clear their disgust that John Terry is being allowed to leave this summer and songs urging the board to reconsider their decision -- and it was only 30 minutes in that the Kop found its voice to liven the atmosphere.

By that point they had seen Liverpool make a bright start. Klopp, overseeing his 50th match in charge of Liverpool, showed how much he wanted a topsix finish by naming a team that won't be far away from the one that he selects for duty in Basle next week.

Only a lunging tackle from Baba Rahman prevented Liverpool racing into a fifth-minute lead -- the Ghanaian threw himself in front of a goal-bound shot from Milner -- and they came close in the next attack, when Lallana and Philippe Coutinho both had shots saved by Begovic.

Then, though, the one-way traffic turned completely and spectacularly when Hazard set off on a run. And what a run. Graceful and nimble, showing speed and strength, Hazard slalomed in and out of red shirts with the ball glued to his feet as if he was controlled by a computer joystick.

His finish matched the stunning work that had gone before, whipped past Mignolet into the far corner. Hazard -- never a soul who has struggled for self-confidence -- celebrated in front of the Kop and looked ever so pleased with himself.

In the last nine days, Hazard -- with this strike and the one that lampooned Tottenham's title challenge -- has reminded us why he was voted Player of the Year when Chelsea were crowned champions. He really should offer an explanation of why it has taken so long to show this form.

Hazard (below) was vilified after Mourinho was sacked last December but there was no lingering discontent among the travelling fans, who gleefully sang his name and it was clear to see how much confidence he took from the moment. Every pass found a blue shirt, every ball played in to him stuck to his dancing feet.

Chelsea, from that point, were the better team. Nemanja Matic had his swagger restored; Pedro caused headaches and Cesc Fabregas oozed class.

Liverpool, by contrast, continued to huff and puff and even when they got into good positions, they hardly convinced; Sturridge, for one, saw a chance spurned on the hour when Begovic smothered a drive from close range.

This was Hazard's night, despite Benteke's belated goal out of nothing.

LIVERPOOL (4-2-3-1): Mignolet; Clyne, Toure (Ojo 86), Lovren, Moreno; Can, Milner (Allen 78), Lallana (Benteke 78), Coutinho; Firmino; Sturridge.

CHELSEA (4-2-3-1): Begovic; Azpilicueta, Mikel, Cahill, Baba Rahman; Fabregas, Matic; Pedro (Loftus-Cheek 90+3), Willian (Kenedy 57), Hazard; Traore (Abraham 72). Referee: Michael Oliver.

The Daily Telegraph

Benteke cancels out Hazard's brilliance

Most players are thinking of their holidays at this time of the year. Eden Hazard appears to have just ended his. It's taken eight months but Chelsea's superstar winger belatedly decided to do a fair impression of a world class player at Anfield. Hazard's first-half strike was a work of art, but what would have been a match-winning contribution was cancelled out in injury time by Christian Benteke's header.

The result suited no one. Jurgen Klopp may yet end the season with a trophy but the draw means the prospect of matching the club's worst league placing of the Premier League era - eighth - is a real one.

For 90 minutes Chelsea gave the impression the season was ending too soon. They were resolute in defence until the last act, while Hazard wreaked havoc whenever the mood took him, which was often. It was the formula that made most of us think Chelsea would retain their crown when battle commenced last August.

If both clubs were hunting for clues as to what is needed next season, we also saw what's gone wrong domestically in this one. While Chelsea succumbed in a game they thought was won,Liverpool lost composure too soon once the momentum shifted against them. However they found a late reward when substitute Sheyi Ojo's cross evaded Asmir Begovic and Christian Benteke pounced.

For Liverpool this was all about keeping the rhythm and maintaining form before the trip to Basel.

There was even an outside chance of finishing in fifth if West Ham and Manchester United slipped up.

There was plenty of tempo in Liverpool's opening, when it seemed Begovic would be in for a hectic evening.

Philippe Coutinho, Adam Lallana, Roberto Firmino and Dejan Lovren were all came close to scoring before Chelsea had even settled. John Obi Mikel looked nervous and Bertrand Traore was wondering when he'd get his first kick as the game played out in the visitors' half.

Firmino's was the easiest chance, sent through by Daniel Sturridge, but he miscontrolled the ball just as he faced Begovic. The angle then proved too tight and the Brazilian could only find side-netting.

This ensured that the hosts failed to give tangible meaning to their early superiority and, once Guus Hiddink's side adjusted, the game became an exhibition involving Hazard taunting Liverpool mid-fielders and defenders.

There is no finer sight than the Belgian mesmerising markers and the only lament was the question where has he been all season? He must have been enjoying the longest pre-season in memory, opting to wake-up only when it looked like Tottenham might win the league. It bodes well for Belgium, but Hazard's goal-of-the-season contender 32 minutes into this game must have been bittersweet for all Chelsea fans.

Hazard evaded the challenges of four Liverpool players, slalomed to the edge of the penalty area then picked his spot beyond Simon Mignolet.

Liverpool couldn't get near enough to Hazard to trip him up, let alone stop him weaving extravagant patterns. Emre Can was eventually cautioned for using illegal means and Toure followed in the early stages of the second half. The winger - given a free role to cause mayhem wherever he fancied - was proving the difference between the sides.

All the verve of Liverpool's start was memory, Sturridge opting to try to silence the taunts he was receiving from Chelsea fans with too many individual efforts from distance. One attempted chip from the centre circle prompted appreciative applause but it was a sign of his and his side's growing desperation.

Lallana, Coutinho and Firmino's magic was 40 yards from goal rather than areas to inflict damage, while there was a stubbornness to Nemanja Matic's midfield enforcing that - like Hazard - made him resemble the player of last season.

Liverpool were seeking their first win at home over Chelsea since 2012, a game which had just followed an FA Cup Final defeat. The Londoners are starting to enjoy their trips to Merseyside too much, and there was much to contemplate for Klopp the more his side toiled.

One quality Klopp has added to this team is fitness and stamina so there was plenty of optimism the latter stages would end in a siege.

The first threat of that came on the hour when Lallana set Sturridge free in the penalty area, but the England striker's shot was too close to Begovic.

Kolo Toure then misdirected a header from close range as finally some home pressure intensified.

Chelsea remained as dangerous. There was a suspicion Liverpool's players were willing to give their all with the ball, but were less inclined to risk injury in trying to retrieve it. Pedro forced Mignolet into action on 63 minutes as the Liverpool defenders once more backed off.

Traore - who grew into the game impressively - made Mignolet work again just before he was replaced on 73 minutes.

Klopp decided he had to make his own changes with 15 minutes remaining, summoning Joe Allen and Christian Benteke in a final effort to end his home campaign with at least a point.

Benteke obliged with the last meaningful contribution after Begovic's error.

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THE INDEPENDENT

Klopp gifted late point as Benteke heads late leveller

Since knocking out Borussia Dortmund in the quarter-finals, Bob Marley's Three Little Birds has emerged as the anthem of Liverpool's run to the Europa League final. Each time it is played on Anfield's public address system, it informs supporters, of course, that "every little thing, gonna be alright," and then the majority of those present join in. Maybe their season ultimately will be. Again here, Liverpool eked out a recovery when all indications pointed towards defeat.
This time next week Liverpool might be a Champions League club once again and this match will be forgotten about. For that to happen, though, they will have to play a lot better than they did against a Chelsea team that contained John Obi Mikel as a makeshift central defender. Never before has the Nigerian midfielder appeared so comfortable in a Premier League fixture on Merseyside.
Everything that Liverpool have been in games on this ground over the last month, they were not here. Chelsea, decimated by absentees, were seconds away from victory. Liverpool's push for an equaliser had been gentle rather than forceful. Chelsea's lead could have been greater had Pedro released a more convincing finish from Eden Hazard's perfect defence splitting pass with a few minutes to go. Guus Hiddink, the acting Chelsea manager, claimed his players had almost executed "the perfect match" and he was right. He then conceded that Chelsea's only failure was to kill the game off and he was right about that too.
In injury time, indeed, just as it seemed as though Jrgen Klopp might spend the next few days concerned about momentum being lost with a European final looming, Christian Benteke capitalised on Asmir Begovic's mistake from Sheyi Ojo's cross to steal a point. Klopp believes Liverpool's never-say-die attitude is a great strength. But he realises as well that not everybody trusts the quality of his team yet and that includes fans and, maybe, the players themselves. "You could say we were patient because we scored right at the end," he suggested.
"But before we wanted to be patient and everybody ran faster instead."
There was more riding on this for Liverpool than there was for Chelsea, who would finish in their lowest league position in 20 years regardless of the result here. Theirs was a skeleton side, with John Terry suspended, Branislav Ivanovic and Diego Costa injured and Thibaut Courtois sitting in the directors' box because of sickness. Liverpool's team, meanwhile, reflected Klopp''s likely selection policy in next week's Europa League final against Sevilla, with the same XI that started against Villarreal last Thursday in the semi-final featuring again.
There was no sense that this was a full scale-drill, however. It would be tempting to describe Hazard's opener as a thing of beauty. The identity of the architect did not come as a surprise. Throughout, neither Emre Can nor James Milner were able to regulate the Belgian's movement from a central position and his display was the outstanding feature of the night.
Hazard''s goal came from Chelsea's left: slaloming, skipping and accelerating past four opponents before easing a shot past Simon Mignolet from the edge of the box. Yet at no point did a home player apply necessary pressure to prevent the run and it reinforced the idea that Liverpool were preoccupied by other challenges. Their best opportunity of the first half came when Daniel Sturridge released Roberto Firmino with a delightful pass.
From there, the Brazilian's first, second, third and fourth touches were good. The fifth ruined any chance of him scoring and the moment acted as another reflection of the wayLiverpool were playing.
The pattern did not change a great deal in the second half.
This was Klopp's 50th game in charge of Liverpool. That it came just 217 days since his appointment last October meant that he had reached the landmark quicker than any Liverpool manager in history.
Having played so much, especially since Christmas, it seemed as though it might have been up to Klopp to determine whether this performance was a consequence of diverted attentions and players being afraid to commit to the high intensity levels that he usually demands in case of injury ahead of a big game, or, in fact whether Liverpool are getting tired at exactly the wrong time. Perhaps Benteke's intervention will stop that investigation happening. Perhaps Klopp will be happy to ride the momentum from here.
Liverpool (4-2-3-1) Mignolet; Clyne, Lovren, Tour[c] (Ojo 86), Moreno; Milner (Allen 75), Can; Lallana (Benteke 75), Firmino, Coutinho; Sturridge. Subs not used: Bogdan, Lucas, Skrtel, Smith.
Chelsea (4-2-3-1) Begovic; Azpilicueta, Cahill, Mikel, Rahman; Fabregas, Matic; Willian (Kenedy 57), Hazard, Pedro (Loftus-Cheek 90); Traor[c] (Abraham 73). Subs not used: Amelia, Pato, Palmer, Tomori.

DAILY Mirror

KLOPP: THE FORCE AWAKENS; Benteke rewards the new Kop believers

IT is a brave man who takes Liverpool fans to task, but then Jurgen Klopp is not short on courage.
"We decide when it's over," he angrily told them in November, after the Kop emptied long before the final whistle when the Reds trailed Crystal Palace.
It seemed merely a stinging soundbite at the time, but as his Anfield tenure has developed, the supporters have realised they are not hollow words but a philosophy, as a revived Chelsea discovered painfully in the dying seconds here.
Outplayed and out-thought by the visitors, it was outlandish to think Liverpool could steal anything from a game apparently settled by Eden Hazard, as it ticked deep into stoppage time.
But there were no deserters on the terraces this time, with the Red Army following the orders of their leader to the letter, more evidence of their newly-forged desire . . and the reinvented spirit of this team.
They know things can happen now even against the most impossible of odds - Dortmund proved that.
And when two minutes into stoppage time, Sheyi Ojo put over a searching cross and Asmir Begovic flapped it away, you knew destiny would call.
Christian Benteke, with some salvation at the end of a frustrating season, nodded home.
It was as uplifting as it was unlikely, with Hazard, who last week spoiled the Spurs title party looking for all the world as though his encore would be to ruin Liverpool's Europa League final dress rehearsal.
It was a demonstration of what might have been from the little Belgian with the big talent, who produced a contender for goal of the season.
It is a mystery why Chelsea left it so late in a campaign that has long been over to show the desire, hunger and quality that is a fundamental requirement of reigning champions, and no one has left it later than Hazard.
His sublime 32nd-minute goal made it difficult to understand why he had to wait until April 23 to score in the league. Chelsea boss Guus Hiddink feels the criticism has got to the Belgium international.
"In every job you have criticism and it's how you deal with it," he said. "It's possible it can affect you.
"It's always good to see a reaction and his reaction shows he's capable of playing the way he played.
"He's had a difficult year when last season he was one of the best players. This season he was injured, came back and was injured again. He got frustrated.
"I think he's close to being fully fit. You could see what he's able to do and he's gifted, talented and smart. He played with courage."
It was, equally remarkably, only his sixth goal of the season from 40 appearances in all competitions. Hazard has too much talent for those stats to be plausible, and the implication must be he has only just become interested.
Why? Well, the timing is perfect for Belgium with the Euros looming. Perhaps he also realises his end-of-season form is an invitation for potential suitors in the summer.

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LIVERPOOL ECHO

Reds are in safe hands under Klopp, whatever happens in Basel

It was a fitting final act as the curtain came down for the season at Anfield.
How better to illustrate the impact of Jurgen Klopp than with a dramatic last gasp equaliser in front of the Kop as Liverpool rescued a point against Chelsea.
"We'll decide when it's over," insisted Klopp back in the autumn when he was wrestling with the mammoth challenge he had taken on.
Back then this was a group of players resigned to their fate when the chips were down. Shoulders hunched. Anfield was a place where the Reds' resolve was easily broken. Not any more. Not on Klopp's watch. Here was the never-say-die spirit he has instilled in the squad he inherited as they marked his 50 game in charge by ensuring their unbeaten home run was extended to 13 games.
Liverpool were far from their fluent best on a night but substitute Christian Benteke's late header ensured the party spirit wasn't dented ahead of next week's Europa League final against Sevilla in Basel. The Reds remain eighth but they could still finish as high as sixth if they win at West Brom on Sunday and both Southampton and West Ham slip up. In truth it won't matter if Liverpool end the club's 11-year wait for a European trophy and book their passage into the group stage of the Champions League. What a contrast to 12 months ago when the Reds embarked on their end-of-season lap of honour after a pitiful 3-1 defeat to Crystal Palace. On the day of Steven Gerrard's emotional Anfield farewell Kopites walked away with grave fears about the direction in which their club was heading. Brendan Rodgers' reign had gone off the rails.
Anfield is now a very different place. Both hope and pride spring eternal. The applause raining down from the stands to Klopp and his players was a show of true appreciation. Some of the memories of this campaign will last a lifetime. Win or lose at St Jakob-Park next week, supporters know the Reds are in safe hands under Klopp. The scale of the transformation off the pitch with the imposing new Main Stand taking shape has been replicated on it with Liverpool preparing for their first European final for nine years.
The summer demolition work started earlier than planned with the clatter of seats being removed after the final whistle by fans eager for a piece of history. Klopp will simply concern himself with the present and even though this wasn't the performance he wanted with what's likely to be his starting line up in Basel at least Liverpool avoided any injuries. The Reds lost their way alarmingly after making a flying start against the Londoners. They dominated the opening exchanges as they repeatedly scythed through the Chelsea backline.
Daniel Sturridge led the charge against his former club. The approach play was slick but there was no end product. Sturridge and Alberto Moreno combined to pick out Philippe Coutinho, whose effort was blocked by Baba Rahman, Moreno continued to be a source of promise down the left and swept a pass into the feet of Adam Lallana. His low strike from the edge of the box was pushed away by Asmir Begovic. 'Where's your famous atmosphere?' asked the away end. 'Where's your famous plastic flags?' responded the Kop with interest before a rendition of 'There's only one team in Europe'. Point made.
Roberto Firmino should have broken the deadlock when he latched on to Sturridge's intelligent pass. The Brazilian's pace took him clear of Nemanja Matic but a poor touch forced him wide and he ended up scuffing into the side netting. As the first half wore the intensity dropped and Liverpool got sloppy.
Passes started to go astray and as frustration levels grew Chelsea secured a foothold in the contest. Eden Hazard's shot was pushed away by Simon Mignolet and Kolo Toure was alert to beat Bertrand Traore to the rebound.
Just past the half hour mark the visitors led. It was sublime from Hazard as he weaved his way into the box before slotting nonchalantly into the bottom corner. However, Liverpool hardly covered themselves in glory with Lallana, Firmino and James Milner all failing to put in a proper challenge, while Dejan Lovren made the finish easier by backing off. The Reds responded with Coutinho forcing a sprawling save from Begovic but they were fortunate not to fall further behind before the interval. Mignolet's resurgence has been key to Liverpool's march to Basel. He has commanded his box better and instilled greater confidence in those around him. However, the Belgian keeper felt the wrath of the Kop when he raced off his line to meet Traore before inexplicably stopping midway. Caught in no man's land, Mignolet was relieved to see the Burkina Faso international curl wide. In fairness, the shot-stopper more than redeemed himself with what followed.
The second half brought more of the same with Liverpool lacking a spark at one end, while struggling to contain Hazard at the other. Another mesmerising run from the winger ended with Mignolet grabbing it at the second attempt before Traore could pounce. Going forward, it was all too slow, too predictable. Klopp stood on the touchline demanding more composure but the message didn't appear to get through. The tally of careless errors continued to grow.
Sturridge should have restored parity when he latched on to Lallana's through ball but Begovic denied him. From the ensuing corner, Toure nodded tamely at the keeper. When Firmino picked Matic's pocket and then gave the ball straight back to him it just about summed things up.
As the hosts grew ever desperate they left themselves vulnerable to getting picked off on the counter with Mignolet to the rescue as he thwarted both Pedro and Traore.
Klopp's search for inspiration led to the introduction of Joe Allen and Benteke for the tiring Milner and Lallana. Sheyi Ojo soon followed for Toure and the exciting teenager's impact was emphatic. Ojo had already narrowly failed to convert Allen's inviting delivery before he created the equaliser deep into stoppage time. Begovic made a hash of dealing with Ojo's cross and Benteke nodded home his 10 goal of the season. Kopites have become accustomed to late drama. Things really have changed at Anfield Man of the match: Simon Mignolet. Kept Liverpool in the game with a string of fine saves.

EveningStandard.

Benteke earns late Anfield draw after Hazard strike as Blues fans demand John Terry contract

Liverpool striker Christian Benteke snatched an added-time equaliser as Jurgen Klopp's managerial magic continued at Anfield with a late 1-1 draw against Chelsea.
Having inspired comebacks against Borussia Dortmund and Villarreal in recent weeks, the German achieved it again as one substitute Sheyi Ojo crossed for another to nod home in the second minute of added time.
Up to that point the visitors appeared set to register their third successive Anfield victory as a rejuvenated Eden Hazard scored his fourth goal in as many matches. The Belgium international has some ground to recover ahead of Euro 2016 this summer after a disappointing season but has discovered his old spark again.
A month out injured with a hip problem seems to have had a restorative effect on the 25-year-old who had previously looked a shadow of the man who was last season's player of the year.
However, he was ultimately upstaged by his international team-mate who capitalised on goalkeeper Asmir Begovic only managing to palm Ojo's cross into the air.
It ensured Klopp's 50th match in charge - reaching the landmark in 217 days to comfortably beat the 254 it took both Bob Paisley and Joe Fagan - and the last at the ground before it undergoes a substantial facelift with a redeveloped Main Stand, did not end in disappointment.
It did not look that way as the seconds ticked down as after an early flurry of activity his side - barring injury the one he will select in the Europa League final against Sevilla in Basle next week - played like one with bigger things on their mind.
A Chelsea team missing striker Diego Costa (injured), captain John Terry (suspended) and goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois (ill) defended better and crucially had one player in Hazard who actually looked like he was up for a match of no significance.
Even victory in their final game at home to champions Leicester will not improve Chelsea's ninth-place position, but if Hazard is indeed back to his best next season he should be a different prospect providing, of course, he stays at Stamford Bridge for the arrival of new boss Antonio Conte.
The visitors weathered the early pressure with Baba Rahman blocking Phillippe Coutinho's shot, Begovic saving from Adam Lallana and Roberto Firmino firing into the side-netting after a heavy touch took him wide from Daniel Sturridge's excellent release pass.
Hazard gave Simon Mignolet one warning with a low shot which was parried before Kolo Toure cleared the danger but there was no second chance for the Belgium goalkeeper from his international team-mate in the 32nd minute.
Hazard skipped past Lallana, Firmino and Dejan Lovren - whose attempts at tackling had Europa League final written all over them - to bend a delicate shot inside the far post.
Bertrand Traore, in for Costa, curled a shot wide after Mignolet came for an over-hit pass and then retreated while, after the break, Hazard, Pedro and Traore tested Mignolet further.
Begovic's one task in the second half was to stick out a hand to brilliantly deny Sturridge one-on-one.
Further evidence, if any were required, of Hazard's renewed vigour came in the 80th minute when he burst into a sprint into his own penalty area to prevent Nathaniel Clyne crossing to substitute Benteke.
Klopp refused to give up on the result, however, and kept most of his big names - including Sturridge - on for the full 90 minutes in the knowledge few will play at West Brom on Sunday.
The last throw of the dice saw him replace centre-back Toure with Ojo and the young winger almost volleyed in the equaliser with his first touch but then crossed for the equaliser.

Compiled by Graeme Riley

Date: 11 May 2016
Opposition: Chelsea
Competition: League

Times	Telegraph	Echo
Guardian	Mirror	Standard
Independent	Mail	BBC

11 May 2016

BBC

Christian Benteke's late header cancelled out Eden Hazard's brilliant solo goal as Liverpool kept alive their slim hopes of a top-six league finish.
Chelsea winger Hazard fired a low shot into the corner after a dazzling run to record his fourth goal in four games.
But substitute Benteke earned the Reds a point in added time when he pounced after an error from Asmir Begovic.
Liverpool remain eighth and are within three points of sixth-placed West Ham with a game left.
Jurgen Klopp's side, who play West Brom on the final day, have another chance to secure European football next season when they play Sevilla in the Europa League final on 18 May, with a Champions League spot awarded to the winner.
Chelsea remain ninth.
Hazard back to his brilliant best
In a game that was often short on quality in the final third, Hazard was the outstanding performer.
The Belgium international has endured a difficult season after being named Professional Footballers' Association Player of the Year last season, suffering with injuries and loss of form as defending champions Chelsea slid down the table.
But after failing to score in the Premier League until April, the 25-year-old now has four in his last four games - and here he was back to his very best.
Showing mesmeric balance and close control on the ball, Hazard had 96 touches - more than anyone else on the pitch - and found a team-mate with 95.2% of his passes.
His upturn in form has come too late to save Chelsea's season - or the job of former manager Jose Mourinho - but Hazard's performance suggests he could peak for the European Championship, where, in the absence of Vincent Kompany, he will captain Belgium.
Benteke preserves Liverpool momentum
Klopp's side are on a roll at Anfield, having gone 12 unbeaten at home and easily swatted aside Villarreal and Watford in their past two matches.
Having restored many first-team regulars to the team after fielding a largely second-string side against the Hornets, Liverpool faded after a bright start and could have been further behind had Bertrand Traore not curled wide after rounding Simon Mignolet.
But they improved after the break, increasing their share of possession from 52% to 58%, and Daniel Sturridge and Kolo Toure missed glorious chances before Benteke's late intervention.
Fellow substitute Sheyi Ojo swung over a searching cross from the left and Begovic could only palm it into the path of the Belgium striker.
Klopp downplayed the result's importance, but this was a point that will maintain the feelgood factor at Anfield under the charismatic German before their second final of the season.
Man of the match - Eden Hazard
What they said
Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp: "The result tonight was not important, what's important is that we take the right information out of the game.
"We started very well, and when we play like that with our compact defending we can be good. In a game like this, the crowd force you to attack. We have to develop a lot.
"I like it here. It's a nice place and a world-class club."
Chelsea manager Guus Hiddink: "The team reacted very well. We played all game for the win and got an unlucky present in the last minute. We should have killed it off and I'm disappointed not to have the three points.
"Hazard was terrific and has been growing in fitness for some weeks. It's good to see. He had to suffer a lot with injuries this year but I'm very happy he's back.
"The players showed they love to play football."
The stats you need to know
Six of Christian Benteke's nine Premier League goals for Liverpool have been as a substitute - more than any other player has managed this season in the league.
Liverpool have scored in their past 13 Premier League fixtures.
Chelsea have kept just one clean sheet in their past 12 Premier League meetings with Liverpool.
Benteke's late goal means Chelsea are winless in three Premier League games for the first time in either of Guus Hiddink's spells at the club.
What's next?
The final day on Sunday sees Liverpool travel to the Hawthorns to face West Brom and Chelsea host champions Leicester.

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Match ends, Liverpool 1, Chelsea 1.
90'+5' Second Half ends, Liverpool 1, Chelsea 1.
90'+4' Joe Allen (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
90'+4' Foul by Kenedy (Chelsea.
90'+3' Substitution, Chelsea. Ruben Loftus-Cheek replaces Pedro.
90'+2' Goal! Liverpool 1, Chelsea 1. Christian Benteke (Liverpool header from the right side of the six yard box to the bottom right corner.
90'+1' Offside, Chelsea. Eden Hazard tries a through ball, but Baba Rahman is caught offside.
90'+1' Attempt blocked. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Alberto Moreno.
90' Emre Can (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
90' Foul by Tammy Abraham (Chelsea.
89' Attempt saved. Pedro (Chelsea left footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Eden Hazard with a through ball.
89' Attempt blocked. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool left footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.
88' Substitution, Liverpool. Sheyi Ojo replaces Kolo Touré.
87' César Azpilicueta (Chelsea is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.
87' Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
87' Foul by César Azpilicueta (Chelsea.
83' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Baba Rahman.
82' Hand ball by Tammy Abraham (Chelsea.
79' Attempt saved. Emre Can (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner.
76' Foul by Roberto Firmino (Liverpool.
76' Asmir Begovic (Chelsea wins a free kick in the defensive half.
76' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Eden Hazard.
76' Attempt blocked. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.
75' Substitution, Liverpool. Christian Benteke replaces Adam Lallana.
75' Substitution, Liverpool. Joe Allen replaces James Milner.
75' Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.
75' Foul by Eden Hazard (Chelsea.
74' Substitution, Chelsea. Tammy Abraham replaces Bertrand Traore.
73' James Milner (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.
73' Foul by James Milner (Liverpool.
73' Cesc Fàbregas (Chelsea wins a free kick in the defensive half.
72' Attempt saved. Bertrand Traore (Chelsea left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Pedro.
72' Attempt blocked. James Milner (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.
71' Attempt missed. Nathaniel Clyne (Liverpool right footed shot from the right side of the box misses to the left.
71' Attempt blocked. Adam Lallana (Liverpool right footed shot from the right side of the six yard box is blocked. Assisted by Alberto Moreno with a cross.
67' Emre Can (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.
67' Foul by Bertrand Traore (Chelsea.
65' Attempt missed. Adam Lallana (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the left following a corner.
64' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Nemanja Matic.
63' Attempt saved. Pedro (Chelsea left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the top centre of the goal. Assisted by César Azpilicueta.
63' Attempt blocked. Bertrand Traore (Chelsea left footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Kenedy.
61' Attempt saved. Kolo Touré (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is saved in the top left corner. Assisted by Daniel Sturridge with a cross.
61' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Asmir Begovic.
61' Attempt saved. Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the top centre of the goal. Assisted by Adam Lallana with a through ball.
59' Foul by James Milner (Liverpool.
59' Cesc Fàbregas (Chelsea wins a free kick in the attacking half.
58' Corner, Chelsea. Conceded by Adam Lallana.
57' Substitution, Chelsea. Kenedy replaces Willian because of an injury.
57' Corner, Chelsea. Conceded by Nathaniel Clyne.
56' Attempt saved. Eden Hazard (Chelsea right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Baba Rahman.
54' Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.
54' Foul by César Azpilicueta (Chelsea.
51' Attempt missed. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is too high. Assisted by James Milner.
50' Hand ball by Cesc Fàbregas (Chelsea.
50' Attempt missed. Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool left footed shot from more than 35 yards misses to the left. Assisted by Simon Mignolet.
48' Kolo Touré (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.
48' Foul by Kolo Touré (Liverpool.
48' Eden Hazard (Chelsea wins a free kick in the attacking half.
Second Half begins Liverpool 0, Chelsea 1.
45'+2' First Half ends, Liverpool 0, Chelsea 1.
45'+2' Attempt blocked. Emre Can (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked.
45'+1' Emre Can (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.
45'+1' Foul by Cesc Fàbregas (Chelsea.
44' Emre Can (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.
43' Foul by Emre Can (Liverpool.
43' Eden Hazard (Chelsea wins a free kick in the attacking half.
43' Foul by Adam Lallana (Liverpool.
43' Baba Rahman (Chelsea wins a free kick in the defensive half.
42' Attempt missed. Cesc Fàbregas (Chelsea right footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Pedro following a set piece situation.
42' Foul by Roberto Firmino (Liverpool.
42' Eden Hazard (Chelsea wins a free kick in the attacking half.
40' Offside, Liverpool. James Milner tries a through ball, but Roberto Firmino is caught offside.
39' Attempt blocked. Willian (Chelsea left footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Eden Hazard.
39' Attempt missed. Bertrand Traore (Chelsea left footed shot from the right side of the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Pedro.
38' Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.
38' Foul by Cesc Fàbregas (Chelsea.
37' Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Roberto Firmino.
37' Attempt saved. Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.
36' Emre Can (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
36' Foul by Bertrand Traore (Chelsea.
35' Attempt saved. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the top centre of the goal. Assisted by Alberto Moreno.
33' Foul by James Milner (Liverpool.
33' Eden Hazard (Chelsea wins a free kick in the defensive half.
32' Goal! Liverpool 0, Chelsea 1. Eden Hazard (Chelsea right footed shot from the left side of the box to the bottom right corner. Assisted by Baba Rahman.
29' Attempt blocked. Adam Lallana (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.
28' Attempt missed. Gary Cahill (Chelsea header from the left side of the box is high and wide to the left following a set piece situation.
28' Foul by Emre Can (Liverpool.
28' Eden Hazard (Chelsea wins a free kick on the right wing.
27' Corner, Chelsea. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.
24' Attempt missed. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the left. Assisted by Adam Lallana.
23' Attempt saved. Eden Hazard (Chelsea right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Cesc Fàbregas.
21' Attempt missed. Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is too high. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.
20' Attempt missed. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool left footed shot from a difficult angle on the left is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Daniel Sturridge with a through ball.
19' Attempt missed. Dejan Lovren (Liverpool right footed shot from long range on the right is too high.
16' Attempt blocked. Pedro (Chelsea right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Willian.
13' Foul by Dejan Lovren (Liverpool.
13' Cesc Fàbregas (Chelsea wins a free kick in the defensive half.
11' Offside, Chelsea. César Azpilicueta tries a through ball, but Bertrand Traore is caught offside.
10' Attempt missed. Dejan Lovren (Liverpool header from the centre of the box misses to the left. Assisted by James Milner with a cross following a corner.
9' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Baba Rahman.
8' Attempt saved. Bertrand Traore (Chelsea left footed shot from the right side of the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Eden Hazard.
8' Attempt saved. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box is saved in the centre of the goal.
7' Attempt saved. Adam Lallana (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Alberto Moreno.
7' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Asmir Begovic.
7' Attempt blocked. Emre Can (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Roberto Firmino.
6' Foul by Dejan Lovren (Liverpool.
6' Eden Hazard (Chelsea wins a free kick in the attacking half.
5' Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Alberto Moreno.
3' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Baba Rahman.
2' Attempt missed. Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool left footed shot from long range on the right is high and wide to the left from a direct free kick.
1' Foul by John Obi Mikel (Chelsea.
1' Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.
First Half begins.
Lineups are announced and players are warming up. Posted at
First Half begins. Lineups are announced and players are warming up.

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