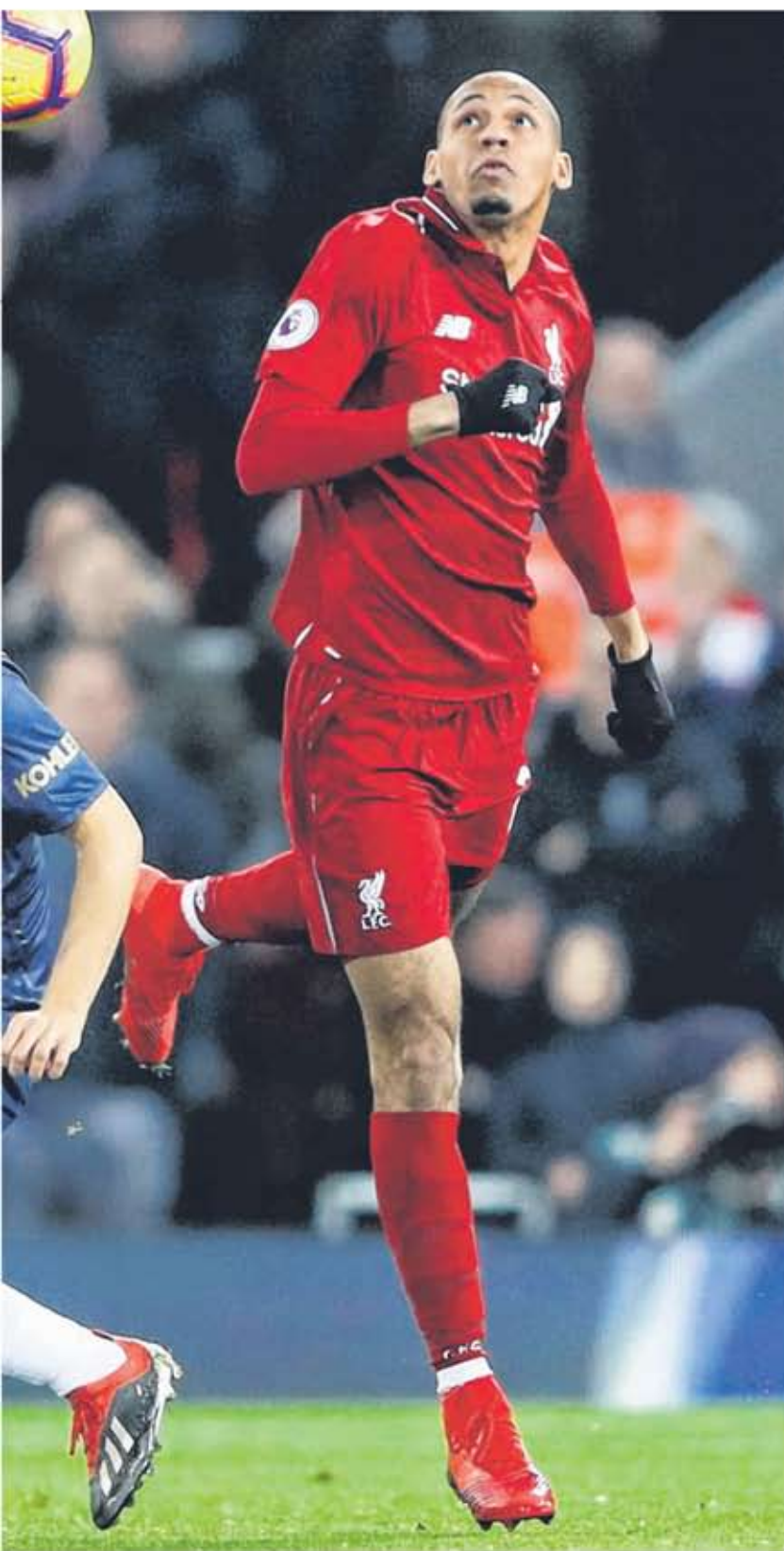


Match points: Liverpool v Arsenal



Key battles

Fabinho v Alex Iwobi

Two Boxing Day substitutes though Fabinho, who opened his Liverpool account, was probably always destined to start this one after his outstanding display against Manchester United. Iwobi, who has been a favourite of Unai Emery's, came on for Mesut Ozil in Arsenal's draw at Brighton and his greater defensive awareness should get him the nod.



Mohamed Salah v Laurent Koscielny

Salah scored his sixth goal in five games against Newcastle and Reds manager Jurgen Klopp may continue his ploy of using the Egyptian as a striker. That may be bad news for Koscielny, only four games into his return from a serious Achilles injury. With Rob Holding out, Nacho Monreal and Shkodran Mustafi doubts, the captain may have to start.



Dejan Lovren v Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang

Perhaps it would have been Joe Gomez, were he fit, but Lovren has relished his chance. He scored a superb goal against Newcastle. Now Aubameyang, signed for Borussia Dortmund by Klopp but more prolific for his successor Thomas Tuchel, offers a test. The electric Gabonese drifts left, so will face Lovren, not Virgil van Dijk.



P30 W21 D9

Liverpool are unbeaten in 30 league games at Anfield.

League-leading form



Goals Liverpool have conceded at home this season, the lowest in the league.

WWWW
WWWW

Liverpool are on an eight-game winning run in the league.

Key statistics

Never a dull affair

4.83



Average goals per game in the last six meetings between Liverpool and Arsenal.

Comeback kings



Points Arsenal have taken from a losing position.

1

Unai Emery's men have led at half-time in just one game this season.

Goal threat



Goals league top scorer Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang has since his Arsenal debut in February. Only Liverpool's Mohamed Salah (25) has more.