FA Cup recap

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SPORTS EDITOR

The FA Cup, England's domestic tournament, is down to the final eight after this weekend's round of matches. Through to the next round are West Bromwich Albion, Blackburn Rovers, Reading, Liverpool, Aston Villa, Arsenal, and Bradford City. At press time,

Villa, Arsenal, and Bradford City. At press time, the result of the Manchester United/Preston North End match was not available.

The massive story lines of the weekend were that of Bradford City after they stunned Sunderland and also Liverpool who attempt to drive Steven Gerrard to an FA Cup farewell in the final at Wembley Stadium. Bradford City has now knocked two Premier League sides out of the competition, the first being Chelsea. The Bantams' supporters only had to wait three minutes before Sunderland captain, John O'Shea, lost concentration and deflected a shot into his own net. From that moment on, the game was lost to Sunderland, who never gained a foothold on the muddy pitch. The final blow was not dealt until the second half when Jonathan Stead put the League One side up by two after a mistake by Sunderland's Adam

Johnson allowed Stead to calmly slide the ball beneath the Black Cats' keeper and their ticket to the final eight was punched.

It was only appropriate that the most in-form team in the Premier League, Liverpool, make the headlines with their come from behind victory over Crystal Palace. Liverpool traveled to Selhurst Park in south London where recent matches have not been kind to the Redmen. It appeared more nightmares would haunt Brendan Rogers' side after Fraizer Campbell scored just 15 minutes into the first half. The score was 1-0 at half even with Liverpool taking 17 shots over the course of the first 45 minutes.

Daniel Sturridge brought Liverpool level just four minutes into the second half with a fantastic volley. Mario Balotelli then created the winning chance with a sizzling free kick strike that was deflected by the keeper to the foot of the rushing Adam Lallana who punched in the winning goal.

Liverpool now marches onto the quarterfinals of the FA Cup with the goal of winning a farewell FA Cup title for Steven Gerrard still within reach.

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