

# Brown Men's Rugby

## Weekly Match Report

Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Marvel Field, Brown University  
Providence, RI

### Brown v. American International College – First XV

<b>Scoring Summary</b>		<b>Brown</b>	<b>AIC</b>
<b>First Half</b>			
4 min	Brown Try (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
20 min	Brown Penalty Kick (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	3	
29 min	Brown Try (Tito Edjua '27)	5	
<b>First Half</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Second Half</b>			
45 min	Brown Penalty Kick (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	3	
46 min	Brown Try (Tito Edjua '27)	5	
69 min	Brown Try (Henrique Gabriel '26)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
74 min	Brown Try (Oliver Corbett '24)	5	
80 min	Brown Try (Theo Romero '27)	5	
<b>Second Half</b>		<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Final Score:</b>		<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>

The goal for the week was to continue to progress our level of play coming off a commanding Ivy League Championship win and an undefeated regular season. As we transition into the postseason, and aspire to earn a return trip to Houston to defend the national championship, it's critical that we continue to elevate our performances each week and take nothing for granted. Tactically, for this match up, our objectives were to operate with intent and patience in attack, and to exert relentless pressure on defense – and at the end of the match, the team was satisfied that they had accomplished both. With temperatures reaching 80 degrees, clear sunny skies, and only occasional wind, all in attendance enjoyed a pleasantly unseasonable fall day and perhaps Brown rugby's best overall performance in any match this fall, against the Yellow Jackets of American International College (AIC) out of Springfield in western Massachusetts.

By committing a handling error on their very first possession of the match, AIC gifted Brown with a highly favorable attacking platform just 20M from the goal. After winning the resultant scrum and maintaining continuous possession through several phases, AIC conceded a penalty. Making great use of the ensuing advantage, Vice Captain Raphael Lansonneur '25 chip kicked over the AIC defense, chased it himself, and was able to dot it down in the try zone, in a remarkable individual highlight. Adding the conversion, Brown took an early 7-0. At the 20-minute mark, Lansonneur added a penalty kick, Brown 10-0. About 10 minutes later, after only a few phases off an attacking scrum in the AIC half of the field, the Brown attack made a line break and displayed some nifty loose play with Tito Edjua '27 finishing for the try. Brown took a solid 15-0 lead into half time, but the feeling was that the team was just a few unforced handling errors away from being several scores up. The Bears were determined to raise the standard in the second half and it showed right away. At the 45<sup>th</sup> minute, AIC conceded another penalty kick opportunity, and Lansonneur cashed in again, pushing the lead to 18-0. Barely a minute later, Brown had the ball and the momentum in the attacking end, recognized a numbers advantage, changed the direction of the attack, and got out on the run in interplay again – and again, Tito Edjua '27 was up to the task, scoring his second try of the match and team-leading 6<sup>th</sup> of the season. 23-0 Brown. As

the heat took its toll and AIC mounted it's last grasps at trying to get back in the match, the next 13 minutes of the match were especially physical and scoreless. Then, in the 69<sup>th</sup> minute, Henrique Gabriel '26 took a crash ball over for a try, pulling equal with Edjua for the team lead and his own 6<sup>th</sup> try of the season. Lansonneur added another conversion, tallying his 15<sup>th</sup> point of the match, and giving the Bears a 30-0 lead with 10 minutes left. The Yellow Jackets had finally lost their sting and Brown would strike twice more before the final whistle. At the 74<sup>th</sup> minute, from an attacking scrum about 10M out, 8-man Antonio Esteves got the defence retreating carrying to the weak side from the back of the scrum. Keeping up the pressure, the forwards pounded toward the goal line and Captain Ollie Corbett '24 finished a series of forwards pick and go carries for a try. And on the last play of the match, super-sub Keigo Hachisuka '24 attacked the short side from a ruck about 15M out, initiating a sequence of superb ball movement that would get the ball through the hands of 5 Bears until Theo Romero '27 touched it down and scored his first points ever for Brown. The final score in this Liberty Conference semi-final was Brown 40 – AIC 0.

Brown advances to the Liberty Conference D1 championship next weekend and will matchup against the undefeated Siena Saints. #5 ranked Siena eliminated #10 Iona from conference championship contention this weekend, 28-14. Neutral site Fairfield University is hosting all of the Liberty Conference finals, across all 3 divisions, on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> in Rafferty Stadium in Fairfield, CT. Brown vs Siena will kick-off at 6pm and will be live streamed on YouTube.

#### Brown Squad:

1. Omar Al-Jendari '24 – Henrique Gabriel '26 @ 78min
2. Joe Al-Hasso '25
3. Asa Rosenmeier '27
4. Matt Mitchell '24 – Oliver Bieling '25 @ 71min
5. Oliver Corbett '24
6. Kaspar Pitblado '26
7. Henrique Gabriel '26 – Rowe Stodolnic @ 70min
8. Matt Mitchell '24
9. Dylan Lewis '24 – Keigo Hachisuka '24 @ 34:30min
10. JT Dyer '25
11. Theo Romero '27
12. Junior Gafa '24
13. Tito Edjua '27 – Santiago Cortabarría '25 @ 74min
14. Santiago Cortabarría '25 – Milo O'Donahue '26 @ 76min
15. Raphael Lansonneur '25 – Will Sinfield G'24 @ 76min

Referee: Tim Anderson