

Brown Men's Rugby

Weekly Match Report

Saturday, October 29, 2022

Marvel Field

Brown University

Providence, RI

Liberty Conference Semi-Final

Brown v. Dartmouth

Scoring Summary		Brown	Dartmouth
First Half			
11 min	Brown Try (Dan Archer '23)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
14 min	Dartmouth Penalty		3
25 min	Brown Try (Henrique Gabriel '26)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '26)	2	
34 min	Brown Try (Ollie Corbett'24)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
First Half		21	3
Second Half			
45 min	Dartmouth Try		5
53 min	Brown Try (Ollie Corbett'24)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
58 min	Brown Try (Santiago Cortabarría '25)	5	
70 min	Dartmouth Try		5
73 min	Brown Try (Antonio Esteves '25)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
79 min	Try (Dylan Lewis '24)	5	
Second Half		24	10
Final Score:		45	13

In November of 2021, Brown finally knocked off Dartmouth after multiple years of dominance by Big Green. Then, just shy of a year later, Brown would defend that title and win a second consecutive Ivy League Championship. Through a strange calculation of wins, losses and points, Brown was matched up with their Ivy foe for a second week in a row. The top four teams (of 12) in the Liberty Conference would do battle this past weekend for the right to play in the Championship game. Would Liberty East 2nd ranked Dartmouth get their revenge over Liberty West 1st ranked Brown? Would American International College, ranked 1st in the Liberty East, continue their dominant run by bearing the Liberty West 2nd ranked team Fairfield University?

Unfortunately, no upsets were to be had. Brown, topping the NCR coaches' poll in the #1 spot would dominate over #9 ranked Dartmouth punishing them with a 45-13 point win. In a much closer match, #7 ranked AIC would edge out a win over #11 ranked Fairfield 32-23.

Ten minutes into the game, Dartmouth were penalized 15 meters out from their goal line in front of the right-side post. Dylan Lewis, seeing that Dartmouth were not retreating, quick tapped bringing the ball down to the 5. An off-load to McAlpine gained a few more meters but was repelled by Dartmouth as play developed on the goal line. Recognizing the need for patience, the forwards went to work executing a series of rucks, looking for any weakness in the Dartmouth defence. A couple of phases later, senior captain Archer was over for the score. An easy extra 2 and Brown was now on the board.

Dartmouth kicked the ball back after the score but a high tackle saw Dartmouth with an opportunity to get some points of their own. In what was probably a 40-meter kick from the right side of the field, the Dartmouth kicker put just enough behind the ball as it landed on the crossbar and bounced over for their first points of the day.

Ten minutes later, Brown was given a lineout on the right side of the field, 5 meters out. Uncontested, Brown won the ball and controlled possession as #1 Henrique Gabriel drove off the side of the ensuing maul for Brown's second try of the game. Lansonneur was accurate with the boot providing the full available points for a score.

Dartmouth then picked up a yellow card for not rolling away deep into their own half. Brown opted to kick for a lineout, moving the ball to within 10 meters of the Dartmouth goal line. Another uncontested lineout allowed Brown with a good driving platform. The maul inched closer to the goal line. A drive off the side almost saw Gabriel with his second score however Dartmouth thwarted that attack. Esteves now had the ball at his feet. Dartmouth were ready for the next pick and jamb but little did they know Esteves had seen Corbett slip out the back. As Antonio picked the ball up, the green defenders converged leaving just enough space for Ollie to wedge his way through and over the line for a third score of the half. The kick was good and Brown now had a 21-3 point lead as we headed into the half.

In the second forty, it would be Dartmouth that would score first. A goalline drop that Brown kicked to nowhere found the Dartmouth #8 who attacked the uncovered space on the left side of the pitch. Splitting two defenders, he offloaded to a Dartmouth player who went in for the easy score. Dartmouth were inching closer with the score now 21-8.

Dartmouth now had momentum. They worked their way down the field eventually reaching the Brown 5-meter line. A poor pass to no-one (in green) found Esteves with ball in hand. Seeing no one back for Dartmouth, Antonio put a boot on the ball. Dartmouth scrambled back but the Brown defence had pushed up. The Dartmouth player, with no support players in sight, was forced to kick the ball himself. One bounce later, the ball was in the hands of Dylan Lewis. Not wasting any time, Dylan was off. Receiving the ball on our own 10-meter line, Dylan sped his way into the Dartmouth half. He drew a defender and passed to Ollie Corbett who had just crossed the 50. The fastest distance between 2 points is a straight line and Ollie knew that. With sprinter's speed, he turned on the jets. In front stood three Dartmouth players, one being their fastest player Abe Kamara (wearing #13 on this day). Like Moses parting the Red Sea, Ollie was off to the races. The reward for his 50-meter run... 5 more points for the good guys. A quick stab at the ball by Lansonneur and Brown was building in confidence.

The next score by Brown would be textbook rugby. Dartmouth, trying to play the territory game, punted the ball deep into the Brown half. Lansonneur received the ball on the Brown 22. Brown moved the ball through multiple hands from right to left and then back again left to right. Five phases of play transpired before Brown found themselves attacking up the right side of the field once again. Cortabarría, with ball in hand, slipped one tackler and offloaded to Campbell O'Connor. Only the Dartmouth loosehead (Jack Swords – son of the legendary USA Eagle Kevin Swords) was near but he was just an inch too far away to get a hand on the slippery centre. Campbell made another 20 meters until the cover defence eventually caught up. Rewarded for his persistence, Cortabarría was able to gather the pop pass and dive over the line for a 5th Brown try. This try unfortunately was not converted but Brown was slowly building a cushion.

At the 70th minute mark, Dartmouth would score their second try of the game with solid play by the men in green. Finally, at the 79th minute mark, #9 Lewis took advantage of an offside player by Dartmouth. Another quick tap provided more real estate for the Brown team to reel in as they worked their way closer and closer to the Dartmouth try line. Then, 5-meters out on the right side of the field, a Dartmouth defender at the ruck jumped out of the line. With the penalty advantage, Lewis stepped inside a defender and touched down for his first try of the day and Brown's last points of the match.

The conversion would not be good however it wasn't needed as Brown would make a big statement punishing their Ivy nemesis by scoring 45 points and only conceding 13. This was a fabulous performance and a true team effort as Brown went into the match with four of their backline players out for this game. This win places Brown in the pole position as they head into next week's match up with AIC for the Liberty conference Final. It also solidifies Brown's place in the NCR National Playoffs however the seeding and opponents will only be determined after this next week's results.

Brown Squad:

1. Henrique Gabriel '26
2. Joe Al-Hasso '25 - replaced by Garrett Mann '26 @ 69th min
3. Dan Archer '23
4. Brett Geiss '23
5. Tony Zhao '26
6. Sam Jana '24 - replaced by Antonio Cortabarría '25 @ 73rd min
7. Ollie Corbett '24 - replaced by Joe Al-Hasso '25 @ 69th min
8. Antonio Esteves '25
9. Dylan Lewis '24
10. Raphael Lansonneur '25
11. Keigo Hachisuka '24 - replaced by Milo O'Donahue '26 @ 69th min
12. Cameron McAlpine '26
13. Campbell O'Connor '23
14. Aaron Mertzell '25
15. Santiago Cortabarría '25

Referee: Tim Anderson