Brown Men's Rugby
Weekly Match Report

Friday, October 6, 2023
Rafferty Stadium, Fairfield University
Fairfield, CT

Brown v. Fairfield University – First XV

Scoring Summary		Brown	Fairfield
First Half			
3 min	Brown Try (Will Sinfield 'G24)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
21 min	Brown Try (Henrique Gabriel '26)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
29 min	Fairfield Penalty Kick		3
31 min	Fairfield Try		5
36 min	Fairfield Penalty Kick		3
First Half		**14**	**11**
Second Half			
62 min	Brown Try (Dylan Lewis '24)	5	
	Conversion (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	2	
70 min	Brown Penalty Kick (Raphael Lansonneur '25)	3	
Second Half		**10**	**0**
Final Score:		**24**	**11**

The Bears went into Fairfield, CT for their first away match of the 2023 season against the #16 ranked Stags of Fairfield University. During the 2022 season, Brown went into Fairfield and came away with a 44-3 victory, which went down as the Stags biggest loss during that season and their only regular season defeat. Fairfield entered this match with their backs against the wall in the conference standings having already registered 2 losses on the season. Given their motivation to avenge last year's rout at the hands of the Bears, their desperate position clinging onto playoffs hopes, and with the match getting national attention being livestreamed through National Collegiate Rugby's Friday Night Rugby series, Brown expected to get their host's best effort, and they did not disappoint.

Brown was able to get on the board quickly, shortly after winning a defensive lineout deep in Fairfield territory, Will Sinfield 'G24 took a short-side ball over the line for his first try as a Brown Bear in just the game's third minute of play. Over the next 15 minutes, Brown continued to dominate set pieces but were unable to convert attacking opportunities into points. Then, in the 21st minute, the formidable Brown forwards won possession at a defensive scrum deep inside Fairfield's end, and on the second phase, Henrique Gabriel '26 was able to power over the try line on the short side for a try. Vice Captain Raphael Lansonneur '25 converted both tries, giving Brown a 14-0 lead just more than a quarter into the match. Perhaps sensing the match slipping away from them, the Stags got their antlers up and applied tremendous pressure on defence, winning several turnovers and penalties to generate scoring opportunities. Fairfield landed a flurry of blows while Brown reeled for a short time, with the Stags scoring 11 points in 7 minutes, pulling themselves out of a two-score hole to bring the half time score to 14-11 for Brown. The Bears regrouped at half, managed to stop the bleeding, and reasserted control of the match in the second half. The two teams were locked in a scoreless physical battle for more than 20 minutes before Brown scrumhalf Dylan Lewis '24 recognized a drifting interior defence, fooled 3 Fairfield defenders with a dummy pass off the back of a scrum, kept the ball, then finding a seam, cut back inside, and

scored to break the scoring drought. Raphael Lansonneur '25 added another conversion to add some cushion to the Brown lead, 21-11. At the 70th minute, Raphael Lansonneur '25 would add a penalty kick for the final points of the match. The Bears battled in the closing minutes to secure a 4th try in the match and thus a bonus point in the standings, but were ultimately prevented from converting on some good opportunities late. In their closest match of the 2023 season so far, Brown came away with a 24-11 win over a tough and physical Fairfield side.

Brown rugby looks forward to celebrating the University's family weekend with a trip to New Rochelle, NY for a tremendous test against contender-on-the-rise Iona University. Coming off a statement upset win this past weekend of previously #6 ranked Dartmouth, previously #12 ranked Iona will surely be vaulted into the top 10 of the NCR rankings prior to this weekend's encounter. Iona will also be enjoying their Homecoming weekend, so we expect the typically treacherous environment at Mazzella Field to be especially hostile to the Bears. We hope to have a significant representation of our supporters present for this one.

Brown Squad:
1. Omar Al-Jendari '24 – Henrique Gabriel '26 @ 77min
2. Joe Al-Hasso '25
3. Asa Rosenmeier '27 – Henrique Gabriel '26 @ 53min – Asa Rosenmeier @ 77min
4. Matt Mitchell '24
5. Oliver Corbett '24
6. Kaspar Pitblado '26
7. Henrique Gabriel '26 – Rowe Stodolnic '27 @ 53min
8. Matt Mitchell '24
9. Dylan Lewis '24
10. JT Dyer '25
11. Milo O'Donahue '26 – Keigo Hachisuka @ 48min
12. Will Sinfield 'G24 @
13. Tito Edjua '27
14. Aaron Mertzel '25
15. Raphael Lansonneur '25

Referee: Myles McIvor

Brown v. Fairfield University - Second XV

Scoring Summary		Brown	Fairfield
First Half			
3 min	Fairfield Try		5
23 min	Brown Try (Rowe Stodolnic '27)	5	
	Conversion (Ben Shirley '27)	2	
26 min	Fairfield Try		5
	Conversion		2
35 min	Fairfield Try		5
	Conversion		2
40 min	Fairfield Try		5
	Conversion		2
First Half		7	26
Second Half			
45 min	Brown Try (Kenyon Graham '25)	5	
54 min	Brown Try (Jack Forgione '25)	5	
	Conversion (Ben Shirley '27)	2	
56 min	Fairfield Penalty Kick		3
70 min	Brown Try (Kenyon Graham '25)	5	

74 min	Brown Try (Freddie O'Donahue '27)	5	
	Conversion (Ben Shirley '27)	2	

Second Half	24	3
Final Score:	**31**	**29**

The Brown B's match against the Stags' seconds was easily the best played and most exciting match this side has had thus far this season. Like their top-side, the Stags were fit, athletic, and well-organized – far-and-away the best prepared B-side the Bears have had the opportunity to play against. Fairfield drew first blood, early, and convincingly, winning a defensive scrum deep in Brown territory and sending their 8-man crashing over for a try 3-minutes into the match. The Bears were on notice. For 20 minutes, the two sides would jockey for control and territory. Finally, Brown was able to score when Rowe Stodolnic '27 took a deft inside pass from Jimmy Phelan '26 over for a try. Ben Shirley '27 converted from the width. Brown would enjoy a 7-3 lead for less than 3 minutes before Fairfield answered, loudly. Over the next 14 minutes, the Fairfield B's would record 21 points including a dagger at the expiration of the first half, resulting from a misplayed kick. Brown was down 26-7 on the scoreboard, but B-side captain Jake Ehrenkranz '24 would tolerate no panic. The goal was to win the second half, but the B's this season have a tendency of exceeding expectations. 5 minutes into the second half, B-side try scoring and points leader Kenyon Graham '25 broke through the defence on a mid-field scrum strike play; 12-26 Fairfield. Less than 10 minutes later, B-side forwards captain Jack Forgione '25 got credit for a try at the back of a lineout maul, Ben Shirley '27 added the conversion; 19-26 Fairfield. In short order, Fairfield was able to capitalize off of a penalty against Brown, slotting a penalty kick to push their lead to 10 points; 19-29. There was plenty of time left on the clock but there would be no more scoring for about 14 minutes as the pressure built for both teams. Then, with another one of those, "how did he just do that?" plays we've become accustomed to, Kenyon Graham '27 ran around several defenders, untouched, and scored in the corner; 24-26 Fairfield with less than 10 minutes to play. It was fitting, that during the 74th minute, when they needed every player's best effort to complete the comeback, that the B's would string together what was without a doubt their most remarkable team try on the season with multiple players handling and passing the ball, with Malcolm Grant '27 putting pace and distance on the ball, dancing out of contact, and Freddie O'Donahue '27 finishing it off for a score in the corner; 29-29. Ben Shirley '27 connected on a line drive ball from the left touch line to give the B's the lead for good, 31-29.

Brown squad:
1. Michael Citarella '27 – Hugo Mullen '26 @ 55min
2. Jack Forgione '25
3. Jullian Hooten '24 – Chris Wai '25 @ 55min
4. Mike Lau '27 – Jack Elliott '25 @ 65min
5. Oliver Bieling '25 – Carlos Ponce de Leon '25 @ 41min
6. Tony Zhao '26 – Antonio Cortabarria '25 @ 42min – Vinh Legros '26 @ 65min
7. Jimmy Phelan '26 – Jack Elliott '25 @ 40min – Om Sagar '27 @ 65min
8. Rowe Stodolnic '27 – Jimmy Phelan '26 @ 40min – Antonio Cortabarria @ 65min
9. Keigo Hachisuka '24 – George Randall '27 @ 23min – Josh White '27 @ 40min
10. Ben Shirley '27
11. Kenyon Graham '25 – Craig Michalowski '26 @ 59min
12. Max McCord '27 – Kenyon Graham '25 @ 59min
13. Jake Ehrenkranz '24
14. Craig Michalowski '26 – Malcolm Grant '27 @ 40min
15. Freddie O'Donahue '27 – George Randall '27 @ 40min – Freddie O'Donahue '27 @ 59min

Referee: Austin Ryan

Brown's next game will kick off on Saturday, October 14th at 3pm. Brown will visit Iona University and play at Mazzella Field.