

Overton 1st XV v Thattham 1st/2nd's

Overton travelled to Thattham as a last minute rearranged fixture. With the Overton 2's playing a league game, Overton 1's travelled with only 16 men and with a very inexperienced side with the average age of the team at just 22 yrs old. Overton started strongly by applying pressure to the opposition forwards. With this pressure the forwards supplied quick ball to the backs who passed the ball across each pair of hands to Jon Baker who took a step and drew his man and then passed to Tom Barrington who beat his opposite man and out to Dave Clark who pinned his ears back and round the outside of the winger to score in the corner, conversion scored 7-0. After this score Thattham applied some pressure in the Overton 22 but were unable to break the line despite the Christmas turkey starting to take it's toll, Salmon, Pinchbeck and Meggison turned over good ball with Harwood (at just 18yrs old) driving the ball up the field offloading in the tackle to Smith, Cornell, McLeod and Kinnear offering support to the runners. From this Smith-Jones shipped the ball out to Marchment who drew 2 men and passed to Salmon with 7m to the line – scored by force on his birthday. Conversion scored 14-0
Half time 14-0

At half time Thattham made 13 changes and eventually in the half this would prove to make an impact as legs tired. For much of the first half Overton received good ball and were on the front foot but with the changes at half time Thattham continued to apply the pressure and test Overton's resolve to the full. Thattham ran some good lines at Overton and without the aid of some good last ditch tackling Overton would have conceded a try in the first 10 minutes. For much of the 2nd half it was a stalemate with both teams counterattacking and defending well until Woods made a break and got tackled just before the line. From the resulting lineout Thattham attacked and recycled quick ball out and scored conversion missed 14-5. With Jon Baker's last game for 3months he made a last ditch tackle to stop a try and in the process received two black eyes. (Good luck starting your new job in Spain on Tuesday)

Final Score 14-5 to Overton and the Christmas turkey well and truly run off.

Man of the match – George Harwood

Big Hitter – Jon Baker

Team – Chris Salmon, Dave Pinchbeck, Marc Meggison, Joe Smith, George Harwood, Adam McLeod, Ryan Cornell, William Kinnear, James-Smith Jones, Dan Williams, Dave Clark, Jon Baker, Tom Barrington, Matt Woods, Carl Marchment.

Subs – Chris Cottrell

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