

# Chapter 1



Franco Silva ran off the field. He headed to the locker room. Coach Brock was tough. He worked the team hard. The Rockdale Heights Rams were ready for their season.

Franco was a senior. He'd been on the football team since freshman year. He loved football. And he worked hard.

The Rockdale Heights Rams won a lot of games last season. Most of

the wins were because of Franco. He made the All-State team in both offense and defense. It was the first time in 15 years a player did that.

He was a great running back. Franco was fast. Coach thought that he was an even better defensive player. His position was left linebacker. And he blocked players much bigger than him.

The first game was next week. The Rams were going to have a great season. Last year they only lost two games. This year the Rams wanted to go undefeated. They also had a good chance to be state champions. It was the first time. They were finally good enough.

Antonio Silva was a freshman.

He was on the team too. He was the third-string wide receiver. That meant he wouldn't play much. But Antonio didn't mind. He worked hard. He wanted to be as good as his brother someday.

Franco hurt from practice. The hot shower felt good. Antonio waited for him. He was ready to go. They walked to Franco's car.

"I can't wait for the game," said Antonio. "We're going to win!"

"I hope so," Franco said. "It would be awesome!"

The whole town wanted the Rams to win. They wanted Rockdale Heights to be state champs!

Ana Silva had dinner ready for the boys. They were starving!