St. John Bosco is an all boys high school down in Bellflower, California. This team of boys from all over the areas of Bellflower and Los Angeles is ranked as the number 2 team in the nation according to USA Today. On Friday, September 11 we had to play this team, and we gave them all we had.  
 After the very first time I watched their film, I could tell they were good. They scored on almost every single drive they had on offense. Their touchdowns weren't just a short run on the goal line, they were long passing plays for 30 yard touchdowns. We knew that this game was going to be a challenge for us mentally and physically. On film they looked really intimidating, but in person, it made you realize that they are still high school kids just like our team.  
 After our Thursday walk through practice, had a team dinner at the Nike World Headquarters with the Bosco players. It was a really cool experience because we talked with them a little bit and saw what kind of people they really were. After a couple of our guys finished eating dinner, we noticed some St. John Bosco players that were inside the building playing foosball on one of the Nike foosball tables. A couple of the Central Catholic guys and I are huge foosball fanatics because we would play each other all the time at lunch. Anyways, JoJo Ellis and I decided to get the group of guys and go play some of the Bosco players in a little 2 on 2 match. Guys from both teams were surrounding the table and watching us play. It obviously wasn't very intense but it was a fun way to get to know some of the players. JoJo and I shut them out 10-0, so no matter what the score was in the football game, at least we beat them in foosball!  
 Before football games, I listen to the same songs, sit in the exact same seat on the bus, and right before we charge out of the tunnel, I listen to the song, I Love My Ducks - Supwitchugirl. For some reason I keep these three things the same before every game.   
 Game time. As I walk onto the field along with the other 3 captains (Ronnie Rust, Malik Thirdgill, and Owen White), I can see all the ESPN cameras that are all around us. Across the field, I can see the St. John Bosco captains with their shiny helmets and chrome silver facemasks. After we shake hands, the referee goes through the normal coin toss routine except for one small detail. St. John Bosco chose Tails, but the coin landed on Heads... So we should have won the toss right? That wasn't the case. The referee turns to St. John Bosco and asks, "So Bosco, now that you have won the toss, would you like to receive or kick?" In surprise, the Bosco player of course tries to act like they won the toss, so he choose to kick first. Ronnie and I both turned to each other in disbelief of what had just happened. We didn't want to call out the referee on national television and say that we should have won the toss, so we just let it go. Interesting way to start the game.  
 Being on national television was something I'll never forget. How often do you get to play a game where ESPN cameras are all over the place? I could tell some of the guys were really nervous but I kept telling them to just relax and enjoy the moment. Some guys were worried about making a big mistake on T.V., but who cares, we needed to just go play the game and have some fun.   
 The game was as physical as it gets. Guys were flying around all over the place, trying to make a big play on T.V. Ronnie Rust had one of the best defensive games I have ever seen him play. I remember one time in the 3rd quarter, I was about to tackle their running back and out of nowhere, Ronnie completely levels him. Ronnie has no fear and so much passion for the game.  
 As the game went on, we fought and pushed through but it just wasn't enough. Our guys fought their hearts out on just about every play. They were just so much bigger than us, our hearts were big, but they had bigger bodies. After the game, I wasn't upset with any of our players because I know that if we play with that much passion for the rest of the season, then the only people that can beat us is ourselves. This game helped us realize who we are and what we want to accomplish. God has a plan for our team and I know that this game was another way he was helping us get where we need to be. Thanks for reading. Go Rams, Go Ducks, and God Bless.