

E13 - Those Who Form the Backbone

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[00:00] Sign

National High School Sports Tournament Girls' Soccer Division

[00:00] Sign

Saitama Knockout Stages Game 1

[00:00] Sign

Saitama Knockout Stages Game 1

[00:00] Sign

Urawa Hosei

[00:00] Sign

Urawa Hosei

[00:00] Sign

Warabi Seinan

[00:00] Sign

Warabi Seinan

[00:34] Hanabusa

Yes!

[00:38] Urawa

Yes!

[00:39] Tenma

Good job, Ada!

[00:52] Nomi

That was a crushing defeat.

SIGN Knockout Stages Round 1

SIGN Warabis Are Defeated

[01:05] Tenma

Number 4, Number 10, Stojković.

[01:08] Tenma

You three idiots, sign these documents.

[01:10] Sign

Club Application

[01:10] Sign

Club Application

[01:12] Tenma

Quit the Warabis and join our team!

[01:15] All

Huh?

[01:18] Chika

This is what you chose, Midori?

[01:23] Midori

Chika-senpai...

[01:25] Chika

What are you guys doing?

[01:27] Chika

The Kanto Tournament, Nationals...

[01:29] Chika

Good players need to be visible.

[01:33] Chika

They need to stand out more
and generate more hype.

[01:37] Chika

That's especially true of
women's soccer players.

[01:39] Chika

So why'd you choose a school that's
perpetually stuck in the prelims?

[01:43] Chika

You have so much talent!

[01:45] Chika

Your style of play is enchanting.

[01:48] Chika

The future of women's soccer is riding on us.

[01:54] Chika

What are you guys doing?!

[02:06] Sign

Farewell,
My Dear Cramer

[02:06] Sign

Farewell,
My Dear Cramer

[02:06] Sign

Farewell,
My Dear Cramer

[02:07] Sign

Farewell,
My Dear Cramer

SIGN Those Who Form the Backbone

[03:29] Nomi

Yesterday's match was tough.

[03:32] Nomi

It was raining. I'm sure
everyone's exhausted.

[03:35] Nomi

So no practice today.

[03:37] Nomi

Tell everyone to get some rest.

[03:44] Nomi

What's wrong?

[03:45] Tase

Oh, it's nothing. Excuse us.

[03:51] Miyasaka

Why are you so down in the dumps?

[03:55] Miyasaka

We fought well yesterday, didn't we?

[03:58] Miyasaka

Losing 2-0 against eight-time
champions isn't a bad result.

[04:02] Tase

Yeah, I thought the same thing.

[04:07] Tase

But Urawa Hosei only showed us a
brief glimpse of their real strength

[04:11] Tase

in the last few minutes of the second half.

[04:14] Tase

Our best was powerless
against Urawa's true system.

[04:21] Tase

If they'd used it in the first half...

[04:24] Tase

No, what frustrates me
most is that they didn't.

[04:29] Miyasaka

We dragged out their max effort,
which they'd been saving for Nationals.

[04:34] Miyasaka

You should recognize that.

[04:36] Tase

But...

[04:38] Miyasaka

It's always "but, but, but" with you!

[04:40] Miyasaka

Obsessing over everything
is a bad habit of yours!

[04:43] Tase

Do you think we can reach their level?

[04:46] Tase

Can we get stronger?

[05:55] Fukatsu

If you're kicking it as hard

as you can, you should stop.

[05:59] Fukatsu

Maintaining good physical condition is an important part of training.

[06:04] Nozomi

Then you should've said that when you got here, Panda Eyes!

[06:08] Fukatsu

I thought it was necessary for you to vent your anger, too.

[06:16] Nozomi

Hey, Panda Eyes. Aren't girls allowed to play soccer for fun?

[06:24] Fukatsu

That's what you're worried about?

[06:31] Fukatsu

Was it Number 26? The girl with the goggles?

[06:34] (Flashback) Chika

The future of women's soccer is riding on us.

[06:40] Nozomi

Thinking about the future or having a responsibility makes it hard to breathe.

[06:45] Fukatsu

It's the history of women's soccer that made Number 26 say that to you.

[06:51] Fukatsu

Women's soccer players constantly feel a sense of impending doom.

[06:57] Fukatsu

It's been a while since they had the charismatic Naoko Nomi in their ranks,

[07:00] Fukatsu

but they're still expected to get results at international tournaments.

[07:05] Fukatsu

How can they captivate an audience

[07:07] Fukatsu

whose interest cools as quickly as it boils over with excitement?

[07:11] Fukatsu

How can they establish a culture of women's soccer?

[07:15] Fukatsu

It's an eternal problem.

[07:17] Fukatsu

This country gets excited about sports teams that perform well internationally.

[07:23] Fukatsu

That's why they're expected to be strong.

[07:25] Fukatsu

That's only natural for a competitive activity, though.

[07:29] Fukatsu

And the key to that is expanding the pool of players to pick from.

[07:34] Fukatsu

A sport is held aloft by its players.

[07:37] Fukatsu

A fragile foundation cannot support great heights.

[07:42] Fukatsu

Increasing the number of soccer players

[07:44] Fukatsu

is the quickest way to turn Japan into the soccer superpower it should be.

[07:52] Fukatsu

In other words,

[07:53] Fukatsu

what matters is whether people watching you get inspired to play soccer.

[07:59] Nozomi

Nobody's inspired by me.

[08:03] Fukatsu

You sure?

[08:14] Fukatsu

You're fine just the way you are.

[08:17] Nozomi

Huh?

[08:28] (Flashback) Nozomi

You make it sound like we won't ever make it to Nationals.

[08:32] (Flashback) Chika

That's precisely what I'm saying. After all, we're here in Saitama.

[08:38] (Flashback) Nozomi

Then the answer is simple.

[08:40] (Flashback) Nozomi

We lost today! It was a crushing defeat!

[08:44] (Flashback) Nozomi

But we'll get stronger.

[08:46] (Flashback) Nozomi

I made a promise to get stronger and beat Kunogi.

[08:53] (Flashback) Nozomi

It's no fun if there's only one strong team.

It's better to have several of them.

[08:58] (Flashback) Nozomi

We'll end your supremacy.

[09:05] (Flashback) Nozomi

We'll become stronger.

[09:13] (Flashback) Sawa

I thought Non-chan and other soccer players were different from me.

[09:20] (Flashback) Sawa

But after experiencing my first girls' soccer tournament, I realized something.

[09:25] (Flashback) Sawa

They're all ordinary girls who like soccer, just like me.

[09:31] (Flashback) Sawa

I'm an idiot.

[09:35] (Flashback) Sawa

I should've known that.

[09:37] (Flashback) Sawa

More than anyone else, I've seen how hard she works.

[09:42] (Flashback) Sawa

I can't become like Non-chan or the other players,

[09:47] (Flashback) Sawa

but I can become me.

[09:50] (Flashback) Sawa

I want to become the soccer player that only I can become.

[09:55] Sawa

And I want to stand on the field with everyone else.

[09:59] Sawa

I want to be useful to the team.

[10:01] Sawa

I want to share happiness, joy, pain, and sadness with the team.

[10:14] Sawa

Huh? Su-chan, are you training by yourself, too?

[10:19] Sawa

Non-chan!

[10:22] Nozomi

Sacchan!

[10:23] Fukatsu

The grumpy one's here, too.

You guys were supposed to take the day off.

[10:31] Sign

Heartthrob

[10:31] Sign

Country

[10:43] Tenma

Hey, pigtailed loser.

[10:46] Tenma

When are you gonna
submit your club application?

[10:50] Tenma

Chika's all depressed because
you won't join our team!

[10:55] Midori

What? Chika-senpai!

[10:57] Chika

I'm not depressed!

[11:05] (Flashback) Chika

All right!

[11:07] Chika

*Midori, when you led Todakita Middle
to a third place finish at Nationals,*

[11:13] Chika

I was genuinely happy.

[11:16] Chika

*You turned what we built—what our
seniors built—into its best possible form.*

[11:23] Chika

*You're a carefree otaku,
but you're also a great soccer player.*

[11:32] Chika

*And I'd get to play with that improved
version of you again in high school.*

[11:38] Chika

Or so I believed.

[11:41] Midori

I'm not frustrated about losing to Urawa.

[11:44] Midori

Not in the slightest.

[11:45] Midori

After all, it was expected.

[11:47] Tenma

What did you say?!

[11:50] Alice

Violence is wrong!

[11:52] Midori

I mean, we don't have any third-years.

[11:55] Midori

Our starting lineup's full of first-years.
On top of that, we only met last month.

[12:00] Midori

You can't call that a team.

[12:03] Midori

If anything, it's incredible we made it
that far, given the circumstances.

[12:08] Midori

Chika-senpai, do you remember what you said?

[12:10] Midori

We need to "stand out more
and generate more hype."

[12:14] Midori

In that case, I'll build a team to rival Urawa.

[12:18] Tenma

Oh, really? You think you can?

[12:21] Midori

I'm on the team.

[12:23] Midori

They've got me, and I've been watching
Chika-senpai this whole time.

[12:28] Midori

Nothing beats standing out at
one of the bigger tournaments,

[12:32] Midori

but a team playing their hearts out at
regional level generates more hype.

[12:35] (Flashback) Nozomi

It's no fun if there's only one strong team.

[12:38] Midori

The coals are already smoldering.

[12:41] Midori

I'll make them famous.

[12:44] Midori

I'm sorry, Chika-senpai.

[12:47] Midori

I should've had a proper conversation with
you when you invited me to join Urawa.

[12:52] Chika

Midori...

[12:54] Midori

I'm sure the team you built for me is an amazing
team that would've felt great to play on.

[13:01] Midori

But...

[13:03] Midori

I want to try building a team for myself.

[13:08] Midori

After all, when you were recruiting members,

[13:11] Midori

and discussing tactics and systems,

[13:16] Midori

you always looked like you
were having so much fun.

[13:29] Midori

Hey, Chika-senpai. I'm so excited.

[13:35] Midori

*On this blank canvas of a team,
I can become anything.*

[13:45] Sawa

It's Son-chan!

[13:49] Fukatsu

She came, too?

[13:51] Nozomi

Soshizaki!

[13:52] Nozomi

Pass the ball to us!

[14:00] Tenma

Sounds like your apprentice
completed her training.

[14:03] Chika

She's not my apprentice.

[14:06] Chika

She's my opponent.

[14:08] Chika

My greatest opponent.

[14:15] Chika

You grew too much, dummy.

[14:20] Chika

Goodbye.

[14:33] Miyasaki

The first-years?

[14:39] Miyasaki

The first-years have
already started running.

[14:43] Miyasaki

You can't keep brooding like this.

[14:46] Kikuchi

Captain!

[14:57] Miyasaka

We'll get stronger, Captain.

[15:01] Tase

Yeah.

[15:03] (Flashback) Nozomi

We'll get stronger.

[15:07] Tase

I'm sure we'll get stronger.

[15:10] Tase

We'll get stronger.

[15:21] Wakasu

It's a shame what happened at the Prefecturals.

[15:25] Nomi

No, I was lacking in every way.

[15:28] Nomi

I failed to lead them to Nationals.

[15:32] Wakasu

Do you remember what I told you after our practice game?

[15:38] Nomi

Yes. That it's the coaches who nurture talent, as well as allow it to rot.

[15:44] Nomi

So I should abandon my pride and give them everything I've cultivated.

[15:50] Nomi

I should talk to them and learn.

[15:53] Wakasu

That's right. Only by doing that do we become coaches.

[16:00] Nomi

Every day, while talking to them through the ball, I make surprising discoveries.

[16:07] Nomi

Just when I think all they're displaying is the self-centered behavior of teenage girls,

[16:11] Nomi

they show me plays that make my eyes grow wide in amazement.

[16:14] Wakasu

Just like you used to do, huh?

[16:20] Nomi

I caused a lot of trouble for you.

[16:24] Wakasu

The rougher the edges of the gemstone, the more worthwhile it is to polish.

[16:32] Nomi

I believe those girls are the future of Japanese women's soccer.

[16:38] Wakasu

Oh?

[16:39] Nomi

And as someone nurtured by you
and Japanese women's soccer,

[16:47] Nomi

I believe it's my job to coach them.

[16:52] Wakasu

You're starting to look like a coach.

[16:59] Nomi

Thank you.

SIGN Several Days Later

[17:03] Sawa

*Several days later, the newly reborn
Warabis began building up our team.*

[17:14] Nomi

Twenty push-ups if she
takes the ball from you!

[17:26] Nomi

You're helping her too slowly!

[17:27] Fukatsu

The counterattack's coming!

[17:29] Fukatsu

Slow her down!

[17:30] Fukatsu

Switch to defense quickly!

[17:34] Yamada

Wow, look at that. Echizen's playing soccer.

[17:38] Takei

Not only that, but that
position seems to suit her.

[17:41] Namek

She's really good at defending.

[17:46] Nomi

Girls, listen up.

[17:49] Sign

JKFB Interleague

[17:49] Sign

JKFB Interleague

[17:49] Sign

JKFB Interleague

[17:49] Nomi

This June, we'll be playing
in the JKFB Interleague.

[17:54] Tase

Interleague?

[17:56] Miyasaka

It's a league for high schools
from Tokyo's suburbs.

[17:59] Nomi

For better or worse,

[18:01] Nomi

since we lost in the first round,
we've got some time on our hands.

[18:05] Nomi

We'll use this time to build the backbone of
our team, gain experience in the Interleague,

[18:09] Nomi

make adjustments where needed, and mount
an assault on the Championship prelims!

[18:15] Tase

Championship prelims...

[18:23] Tase

Let's do it, girls!

[18:25] All

Yeah!

[18:29] Nozomi

I see.

[18:31] Nozomi

*I'll get to experience
that excitement again.*

[18:35] Nozomi

*Incredible players I've never
seen before are waiting for me.*

[18:43] Nozomi

I wish I could play right now!

SIGN June

SIGN First Game of JKFB Interleague

[18:52] Nomi

We've done everything we can.

[18:55] Fukatsu

You mean I did.

[18:57] Fukatsu

It's ridiculous.

[18:58] Fukatsu

I can't believe you decided to become a
coach when you're so terrible at tactics.

[19:05] Sawa

*For these past few weeks, Coach Fukatsu
patiently taught the team about tactics.*

[19:13] Sawa

And we're about to take a new first step.

[19:23] Miyasaka

Come on, Captain. Do the cheer for us.

[19:25] Tase

Huh?

[19:30] Tase

When we lost to Urawa Hosei at the Interhigh prelims, I was frustrated.

[19:37] Tase

I was so, so frustrated.

[19:39] Tase

But more than that, I felt miserable.

[19:43] Tase

After all, we lost to a team that was holding back.

[19:48] Tase

I was about to lie down and give up.

[19:52] Tase

But when I looked up, all of you were there.

[19:56] Tase

I'm glad I get to play soccer with all of you.

[20:05] Shiratori

What a wonderful sentiment.

[20:08] Shiratori

The Swan accepts your feelings.

[20:11] Kishi

You're so embarrassing.

[20:13] Tase

What?

[20:14] Komurasaki

You're so pure, Tase.

[20:16] Tase

Huh?

[20:16] Kakogawa

A romantic and a crybaby.

[20:20] Okachimachi

You make it sound like this is the end.

[20:24] Miyasaka

We're just getting started, Tase.

[20:29] Tase

Yeah.

[20:34] Tase

I want to play soccer with all of you.

[20:38] Tase

So let's win.

[20:40] Tase

Let's play more soccer.

[20:43] Tase

Let's go, Warabis!

[20:45] All

Yeah!

[22:20] Nomi

I'm relieved.

[22:21] Nomi

If we'd lost this match...

SIGN 6 Years Ago

[22:24] Nomi

*it would've meant the end
of women's soccer in Japan.*

[22:28] Nomi

We must become stronger.

[22:31] Nomi

*Since it's a competitive sport,
it goes without saying,*

[22:34] Nomi

*but I want to achieve positive results
and capture people's interest.*

[22:40] Nomi

*I want people to recognize the
problems women's soccer is facing.*

[22:43] Nomi

And I want people to know

[22:46] Nomi

that girls can play soccer, too.

[22:51] Nomi

*That you have lots of
friends all over the world.*

[22:55] Nomi

I can't become better than I am.

[22:58] Nomi

You'll be the ones to surpass me.

[23:01] Nomi

*I know I'm asking a lot,
but please keep playing.*

[23:06] Nomi

Protect the league.

[23:08] Nomi

*Protect this environment where girls can
enjoy soccer like it's the most natural thing.*

[23:30] Nozomi

*Soccer's more fun when
everyone's playing together.*

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