Battalion Sports

Wednesday, June 1, 1983/The Battalion/Page 11

Brock 'satisfied' with NCAA championship

by Joe Tindel Jr. Battalion Staff satisfied coach is an unusual

pall coach Bob Brock is any-gless than satisfied would all eliminate the word from the onary. If winning a national mpionship doesn't bring sfaction, what does?

True, the Aggies' road to the top wasn't full of homers or blowouts, nor does Texas A&M's final 41-11 season record tics office looking like he'd just indicate perfection. But Brock's set down a 50-pound sack of not losing any sleep over that.

As the Aggie coach put it: "It wasn't pretty, as far as hits were concerned, but it was enough to

potatoes. After all, surviving injury to a key pitcher, less than adequate hitting, and a loss in the first game of NCAA soft-

they're not already shot.

In between a good night's sleep after Monday's flight home from Omaha, Neb., and celebration Tuesday, a cheerful Brock sat down to reflect on the

championship series.
"I just felt like that if we got by UCLA, we were going to win the hand winning is what a coach is

And winning is what a coach is

ball's College World Series can set a coach's nerves to rest, if the Aggies 1-0 semifinal victory over the Bruins. "The (Aggies') defense was tremendous. It was actually Cal State-Fullerton's defense that made the errors that gave us the game. We never faltered, we never quit and we nev-

er made an error.

"It's a good thing. I think (pitcher) Lori (Stoll) was getting at the end of her rope at that 26th inning. She was really talking about being tired. We got together and everybody kept saying to each other, 'hey, we've got to get Lori a run; this is one game that we're not going to let Lori lose.'

That extra effort was for a worthy cause. Earlier this spring in Albuquerque, Stoll went 19 innings against Fullerton and lost. This time she had already pitched 14 innings against UCLA in Sunday's semifinal. She had to pitch 12 more to secure Texas A&M's 2-0 victory over Fullerton in the champion-

ship game later the same day.
The chance to pitch against UCLA was especially important for Stoll, who finished her career as a four-time all-America and one of the best pitchers in the nation. She had lost to the Bruins two years ago in 29 innings, 1-0. Brock said he decided to let

Stoll handle a large portion of the pitching chores because she was on a roll and had momentum working for her. But relief pitcher Shan McDonald pitched the Aggies to a 2-0 victory early in the series over Louisiana

Tech, to help her team bounce back from a 2-0 loss to South Carolina in the first game of the

"I decided that Lori had gotten us where we were at, and I knew I had Shan in relief when I needed her," Brock said. "(But) I think Shan pitched a big, big game when she beat Louisiana

"I don't feel like any of those teams could have beaten Shan or Lori. It's just that it seemed that Lori had the momentum going. She had a lot of things going her way."
Stoll went straight home to

Chillicothe, Mo., after the series. But in a long-distance telephone interview Tuesday, she cited confidence and determination as her motivating factors during her 26-inning pitching marathon Sunday.

"I really wanted to win because it was my last year, so I decided to pitch as hard as I could," Stoll said. "I just knew that our defense would hold. I knew we'd get a run sooner or later. It was just a matter of

"It seemed like I got more tired when I would come in between innings and sit on the bench instead of while I was out

Stoll and the Aggies were on the hot seat from the outset, having lost the first game of the double-elimination series. But Brock said that's been par for

the course for his team.

"It put pressure on a team that had done it before," Brock said, "and a team that never knew what the word quit meant. It's not the first time that the Aggies lost the first game. It just seems to be part of our makeup — that we're going to have to lose that first game and battle

After its loss to South Caroli-

na, Texas A&M defeated Indiana, 1-0, Friday, before knocking off Louisiana Tech Saturday. The Aggies beat Fullerton Saturday, 1-0, to earn a characteristic of the second chance to play them again in the

championship game.

The Aggies faced the same problem in the championship series that they faced all spring. But field play made up, and, as Brock said, the hits came at opportune moments.

We didn't hit very well, but we hit enough, and we hit in spurts," Brock said. "And our defense and our pitching were so awesome that it was just a matter of time whenever we could get some hitters that could put something back-to-back.

When the bats did crack, Brock said Iva Jackson, Cindy Cooper and Patti Holthaus were responsible for most of the

Cooper was one of the youngsters who, to say the least, didn't disappoint Brock this spring. She made the all-tournament team — as a freshman — at third base.

"I think the freshmen played outstanding," Brock said. "In the final two games I had a freshman in left field, a fresh-man in right field, a freshman at third base and a freshman at first base.

Cooper, who was home in Bartlesville, Okla., Tuesday, said the newness of the championship series was hard to swallow until the time came to actually get out onto the field.
"Before every game, I was

real nervous," Cooper said. "It was hard to eat. It was hard to even think about anything else but playing.

"I remember every extra inning that we went out there, we

Lori Stoll

nervousness after the 12th in-

ning Sunday against Fullerton.
"I was crazy," Cooper said. "I
mean I was the happiest I've ever been. I was so tired from having to play so much, but yet it was like every bit of energy I had left I spent on yelling and hug-

ging people."

For Brock, the winning experience wasn't a new one. His 1982 Aggies won the AIAW national championship. Nevertheless, he had powerful words of praise for his NCAA championship team: "I've never coached a team that was more together and more team-oriented. (They) never knew what the words 'give up' or 'quit' or 'we're through'

"I've never seen a team with more composure and more enthusiasm for the game. And never once did they ever say, 'we can't win this tournament.'

"I'm very, very proud of them, as a coach. Basically all I would keep saying, 'three outs."

But Cooper and the Aggies
were able to throw away all the

did was make up lineups and encourage them. They did it themselves."

Sixers grab title

United Press International NGLEWOOD, Calif. — nat a difference a decade can

rs compiled a 9-73 record, worst record in the long hisoraleory the NBA.

And here we are with the 182-83 version of the 76ers 182 stamped themselves Tuesnight as one of the NBA's time great teams with a 115drubbing of the defending thAleBA champion Los Angeles kers, completing just the with championship series

Lebar weep in league history.

e approved When the regular season enwith 76ers holding a spark-67-15 record, Philadelphia's ses Malone was asked what iggue expected from his team.

It of "Four, four, four" he rethe bolied. He meant four-game
the eweeps of each of the three play-

fulfilled. Only a single loss to the Milwaukee Bucks blemished the "I'm not out of control now 76ers incredible playoff streak and their 12-1 postseason record goes into the book as the

best in NBA history. Malone, who carried the 76ers to their first NBA crown in 16 years, was named the series MVP after scoring 24 points and grabbing an incredible 23 rebounds in the final game.

But he wouldn't take much of

"This is the greatest moment of Moses' life," the burly center gurgled through a mouthful of champagne in the Sixers lockerroom. "But this isn't Moses' championship. We did it for our fans, and we did it for us, but mostly we did it for the Doctor.'

And Julius Erving, the "Doctor," was there. Tuesday night he silenced the critics who had said despite his enormous talent series. he would never play on a cham-his expectations almost were pionship team. He sat quietly in

"I'm not out of control now because of all the things I've

been through, things that go beyond basketball," Erving said. My family is still the most important thing to me. They stuck with me through six years of frustration.'

Erving finished the game with 19 points, seven coming in the last two minutes when the 76ers. who had not led since the opening period, bolted back into the game. An Erving steal and dunk with two minutes left tied the score, 106-106. With 59 seconds left, Erving slammed one home and was fouled. He made the free throw and the 76ers led,

After a free throw by Kareem Abdul-Jabbar pulled the desperate Lakers within 109-108, Erving dethroned the champions by drilling a 10-foot jumper with 24 seconds left.

.. and Philly fans party

er-drinking fans took to the iladelpia Sixers dethroned to a 115-108 victory. Los Angeles Lakers to be-me NBA champions.

Fireworks sputtered and pped throughout the center the city and cars raced is rough the streets blowing nday heir horns. Garbage trucks

bars throughout the city where pusands of joyful, screaming, many had spent the evening redrinking fans took to the test Tuesday night after the lead, fall behind, then fight back

> Mayor William Green called the 76ers' team, with its regular season record and its record setting 12-1 playoff mark, "one of the finest ever to set foot on a

dian Bill Cosby, watched the fin-

The celebrations erupted in als at his Connecticut home with his wife Camille.

> "I loved it," Cosby said. "I kept saying L.A. is going to get tired. They are playing so hard, playing so far above themselves, reaching for every ball, going for every shot.

'They ran out of steam in the last seven minutes of the game. They had given as much of themselves as they could."

One of the 76ers' biggest fans "It was a happy moment.

Of Smidded a deeper note with their and native Philadelphian, come-

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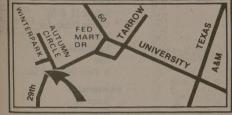
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