The Brady volleyball team was definitely on a roll, winning six straight games and headed into the championship of the Seven Valleys Tournament Saturday in Callaway.

Then disaster struck.

“We broken down on serve receive,” Eagle coach Lynne Johnson said of Brady’s 26-24, 25-21 loss to Class D-2’s No. 1 rated Ansley.

When things got tough, Johnson said, the girls didn’t do what they needed to mentally to win.

“It’s not that we physically couldn’t have won that game,” Johnson said, “because I don’t think that’s the case. But Ansley is very mentally strong and we didn’t match that.”

Brady actually led the Lady Warriors 18-10 in the first set.

“We had their serve receive a little off balance,” Johnson said. “Then they just methodically worked their way back into the game.”

At 10-0 and the top of the Omaha-World Herald’s ratings in the class, Johnson said Ansley is as tough a team as the Eagles will face all year.

And Brady will meet the Lady Warriors again toward the end of the season in a triangular at Sandhills-Thedford.

“We learned some things in that game,” Johnson said. “We know we have to be stronger mentally. We know we have to make a few adjustments and be more precise.”

Brady made it to the finals of the tournament by defeating Litchfield 25-17, 25-16 in the opening round and Sandhills-Thedford 25-14, 25-13 in the semi-finals.

Earlier in the week,

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