

Eagles fall to No. 2 Wildcats

Written by Deb Egenberger
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WALLACE—A lack of strength through the middle portion of Brady’s volleyball schedule has coach Lynne Johnson wishing she could rearrange and start over.

“When you play a string of opponents that don’t really challenge you, the girls tend to get complacent,” Johnson said.

The level of play hasn’t been where the coach would have liked and the Eagles have allowed themselves to play down to opponents.

With more aggressive and more successful teams on the schedule for the last two weeks of the season, Johnson hopes her girls can pull together and match their potential with performance.

“There are no easy games from here on out,” she said.

The series of tough match-ups began Friday in Wallace when the No. 6-rated Eagles went up against Class D-2’s No. 2 Wildcats.

“It took us too long to get rolling,” Johnson said of the 25-13, 25-21, 18-25, 25-17 loss to Wallace. “Our serving was off and our setting was off and things just didn’t go very well.”

It wasn’t that the Eagles folded under pressure. In fact, they put up a good fight handing the Wildcats one of only three set losses this year.

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But the Eagle attacking game was not where it could have been, Johnson said.

“Our sets were either too far off the net to be effective or right on top of it,” she said. “I don’t know how many times we set the ball almost perfectly for Wallace’s big girls to hit but it was definitely too many.”

The Eagles knew they had to hit around Wallace’s dominant net play by 6-foot-2 senior MaKayla Gardner, the coach said.

“I don’t think they were intimidated by her really,” Johnson said, “but our placement when we were able to hit just wasn’t very good.”

Wallace continues a perfect 17-0 season as Brady moves to 17-3 heading into the Sandhills Conference tournament this week.

“It would be easy to look past everyone to Mullen (in the finals of the SHC tournament) but we just can’t do that,” Johnson said. “We can’t take

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