MAXWELL—With a new coach, a new system and a new playbook, it's not difficult to see how inexperienced football players might make a few mistakes.

"We're all pretty much learning on the fly," said Eagle coach Andy Seamann. "I thought we moved the ball well and the effort was good. We just need to cut down on the mental errors."

Seamann said Brady's 28-16 loss to Maxwell in the opening game of the season Friday night came down to penalties and missed assignments.

"It seemed like every time we'd get a decent drive going, we'd get called for a penalty," the coach said.

After forcing Brady to punt in the first series of the game, the Wildcats scored on their first possession, capping the drive with a two-point conversion for an 8-0 lead early.

Maxwell held Brady to three-and-out again, scoring a second touchdown using just four plays.

"We didn't tackle well," Seamann said. "That's something we're definitely going to have to improve."

Just before the end of the first quarter, a Maxwell defender tackled Brady quarterback Zach Mann in the endzone for a safety, giving the Wildcats a 16-0 advantage after one period.

Brady got on the board early in the second quarter with an 18-yard run by Mann. A two-point conversion run by Michael Neimann closed the Maxwell lead to 16-8.

“The kids did a good job of running the plays I asked them to and we were able to get a little something going,” Seamann said.

The Wildcats scored again five minutes before halftime and opened the second half with another touchdown for a 28-8 lead.

Brady didn’t put any more points on the board until midway through the fourth period when Mann ran in from 11 yards out and then connected with Troy Lusk on the two-point conversion pass.

Mann finished with 88 yards on 19 carries. He also threw for 110 yards and managed 15 total tackles.

“The thing is, we realize that what went wrong can be fixed,” Seamann said.

Hopefully quickly as the Eagles (0-1) host Bertrand (0-0) on Friday.

The Vikings, Seamann said, lost all but two starters from last season’s state quarter-final team but bring back 12 seniors on the roster.

“They’re going to be tough,” the coach said. “We’re going to have to be disciplined and not make the mental mistakes.”

Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.