Eagle football team defeats Maywood

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Brady's football playoff hopes still alive.

Brady football coaches haven't mentioned the possibility of state playoffs to their team all season ... until this week.

"I think they understand that there are expectations now," said coach Darren Tobey after the Eagles defeated Maywood 42-12 Friday night. "What I want them to understand, though, is what's at stake in the weeks to come."

The Eagles are 3-2 on the year sitting 23rd in playoff points in Class D-2. The top 32 teams earn a playoff berth.

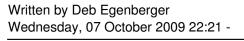
Tobey said one more win this year and he thinks the Eagles will make their first state football appearance since the mid-1990s.

"We need to take that next step," he said, "but we're not going to do it with slow starts offensively like we had against Maywood."

It took the Eagles until the second quarter to light up the scoreboard when Kyle Pohlman pushed through the line 1-yard for the first touchdown.

Brad Ward scored again in the second period on a 62-yard run to put Brady up 14-6.

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"The kids weren't happy with the way we were playing in the first half," Tobey said. "We mishandled the ball three of the first four possessions."

He said the Eagles didn't make many scheme adjustments but instead came out in the second half with more fire and more aggression."

Brady scored four more touchdowns in the second half. Ward ran in three times and Pohlman completed a 54-yard pass to Christian Arterburn for the fourth.

Ward finished with 224 yards on 22 carries.

"I was really pleased with our defense," Tobey said. "Maywood has averaged 30 points a game and we held them to 12."

This week will be another big test as the Eagles travel to Ansley (4-1) on Friday.

"It will be back to smash-mouth football instead of spreading the field," Tobey said. "This is a big game. The kids know this is a big game. There are a lot of playoff points at stake here."