After overtime loss at home, Brady falls to 1-5.

Brady couldn't match Arnold's four players in double figures during the first round of the Maxwell Booster Tournament last week and then allowed Stapleton-McPherson County its first win of the season.

In the opening round Dec. 21, Arnold made 25 free throws compared with Brady's six shots from the line to win 53-41.

Coach Rich Britten said that's a real telling statistic for the boys.

"We're simply not getting to the free throw line enough," he said.

Arnold led 15-13 at the end of the first quarter and went up 33-24 with a Chase Schwarz buzzer-beater at halftime.

Both teams struggled to score in the third period and Arnold outlasted a Brady run in the fourth.

Christian Arterburn led the Eagles with 15 points. Nathan Montoya and Devan Polt pulled down eight rebounds each.

It seemed to be the same song with another verse during the Maxwell tournament consolation when the Eagles fell to SMC 56-43.

“We got behind by six or so points in the first quarter and worked our way back toward halftime,” Britten said.

The Eagles trailed 13-7 at the end of the first quarter and closed the gap, tying the score at 16-16 midway through the second period.

ARNOLD 53,
BRADY 41

BRADY	FG	FT	PF	Rb	PT
C. Arterburn	5-10	1-2	3	4	15
C. Blede	2-7	0-0	5	2	5
E. Callahan	0-3	0-0	3	3	0
S. Finnell	1-4	0-0	0	0	3
T. Egenberger	1-4	1-2	4	4	3
N. Montoya	0-4	3-5	4	8	3
K. Pohlman	1-10	0-0	2	5	3
D. Polt	1-6	1-2	3	8	3
D. Riedel	2-3	0-0	0	1	4
B. Ward	1-7	0-0	5	4	2
TOTALS	14-58	6-11	29	39	41

Three-pointers: Brady, Christian Arterburn, 4; Corbin Blede, 1; Shawn Finnell, 1; Kyle Pohlman, 1.
Field goals: Brady, 14-58, 24%.
Free throws: Brady, 6-11, 55%.
Fouls: Brady, 29.
Rebounds: Brady, 20 offensive, 19 defensive, 39 total.
Turnovers: Brady, 13.
Scoring by quarters:

Brady	13	11	6	11—41
Arnold	15	18	4	16—53

SMC 56,
BRADY 43

BRADY	FG	FT	PF	Rb	PT
C. Arterburn	1-6	0-1	5	1	3
C. Blede	1-4	0-0	1	1	2
E. Callahan	0-1	0-0	0	2	0
S. Finnell	1-3	0-0	0	1	3
T. Egenberger	3-8	2-2	1	1	8
N. Montoya	0-0	0-2	3	1	0
K. Pohlman	6-10	0-3	4	1	13
D. Polt	2-2	1-2	4	2	5
D. Riedel	1-1	1-2	2	2	3
B. Ward	3-4	0-0	3	7	6
TOTALS	18-39	4-12	23	19	43

Three-pointers: Brady, Kyle Pohlman, 1; Christian Arterburn, 1; Shawn Finnell, 1.
Field goals: Brady, 18-39, 46%.
Free throws: Brady, 4-12, 33%.
Fouls: Brady, 23.
Rebounds: Brady, 5 offensive, 14 defensive, 19 total.
Turnovers: Brady, 21.
Scoring by quarters:

Brady	7	15	7	14—43
SMC	13	14	11	18—56

The Eagles didn’t score again in the first half until there was just over a minute to play.

In the final nine seconds before halftime, Kyle Pohlman hit a layup and a three-pointer to pull Brady within five, 27-22.

“We knew we were going to have to come out strong in the third quarter and that just didn’t happen,” Britten said.

SMC outscored Brady 18-4 from the free throw line.

Pohlman led the Eagles in scoring with 13 points and Tyler Egenberger chipped in eight. Brad Ward had seven rebounds.

“We scored more in field goals than both Arnold and SMC but we just didn’t get to the line enough,” Britten said.

Hope is on the horizon, though, he said.

Despite losing 69-58 in overtime to Paxton in the first round of the Brady Holiday Tournament, Britten is encouraged by a marked improvement in play.

Down 49-46 with just a handful of ticks left on the clock, Brady senior Corbin Blede hit a huge three-pointer to tie.

Two seconds remained in regulation when an unplanned Brady foul sent Paxton's Cooper Bollman to the line.

The Tiger senior missed both free throws to send the game into overtime.

"We just got a little too excited during the overtime, including me," Britten said, "and it got away from us."

Arterburn, Blede and Pohlman scored 10 points each for the Eagles.

"We just played so much better as a team," Britten said. "I think there are good things to come."

Brady faced Wauneta-Palisade in the consolation game on Tuesday.

Look for complete Brady Holiday Tournament coverage in next week's issue of The Times.