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VOLLEYBALL

The infusion of young talent into the team has helped engineer the team's emergence for a shot to win the region. "I think, because we are younger, we have more talent that gives us a little bit more," Holiday said. "People that aren't playing [last season] are going to have more freedom, and they go by playing what they need to do, and not just the court really is all about you and work ethic."

Skoch didn't hesitate to commend his team for being a young team, but he can do better things with a bad attitude. "She's not an easy player to like, but she can do better things with a bad attitude," Skoch said. "She's a very valuable player yet, but if she keeps up with the ball control and everything, she'll be a key player for us this year."

Graybeal will see increased playing time as a sophomore, with Susie Lesher and Lauren Medina currently being the starting setters. "I think by the end of the year, we're going to see some people," Skoch said. "I'm going to try my best and improve my offensive game — that's something I'm really going to concentrate on," Medina said. "My defense has been fine, but I want to step up and make sure for what we lost. To help improve our offensive numbers, I've got to set the ball and find my blockers."

"I think that the team has put the loss behind it this year. Holliday said the team has put the loss behind it this year. "I think if we do that then we are going to have a chance to play in the tournament, and we have a chance to play in the tournament," Covich said. "I think this team really has that ability." The Bulldogs open the season on the road against Southeastern University. (8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 20) The season opener is against Northeastern University (8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 21). The Bulldogs are 1-0 this season after winning 3-0 over Southeastern University (8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 21) against Northeastern University (8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 21).