

Neptune updates leave something to be desired

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Esports Arena gives gamers social outlet

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Huskies prepare for high altitudes

MADDIE BARRETT
Assistant Sports Editor

DeKALB — Head coach Thomas Hammock said his team is gearing up for the high altitude in Utah this weekend which can affect player conditioning.

Sitting at 4,637 feet above sea level, Utah's Rice-Eccles Stadium might provide a tough atmosphere for the Huskies.

"The big thing is pushing the hydration earlier in the week," Hammock said. "Normally we push hydration 48 hours prior [to a game], but on Sunday [the coaches] started making sure [the players are] getting a certain amount of fluids."

“ [Utah] is a very good football team. I'm looking at them defensively a lot.”

THOMAS HAMMOCK
Head coach

Hammock said he is giving his players tips like hydrating frequently with not only water, but Gatorade. He learned this from his days in the NFL, where he was taught how to accommodate to higher altitudes.

The Utes are a nationally ranked

program, currently sitting at 13. However, Huskies Head Coach Thomas Hammock said his team is prepared to compete against Utah.

"[Utah] is a very good football team," Hammock said. "I'm looking at them defensively a lot. They're strong at all three levels. We have our hands full. It's gonna be a challenge for us, and we're excited for the opportunity."

Coming off a win against Illinois State University, redshirt sophomore cornerback Jalen McKie said he thinks the Huskies have a fair chance against the Utes. McKie did not play against the Utes last season. However, the Huskie defense held its ground against Utah, allowing 354 total yards.

"Utah is a very good football team," McKie said. "Last season we had a pretty good game against them; I feel like we could come out with a little more fire."

Coming off a win against the Illinois State University Redbirds, the Huskies will take on the University of Utah Utes at noon on Saturday in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Maddie Barrett is the assistant news editor. She can be reached at editor@northernstar.info.



THOMAS HAMMOCK
Head coach



Micheal Escobar | Northern Star

U.S. Representative Lauren Underwood speaks to students Tuesday in the Holmes Student Center during a town hall centering the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

Underwood talks higher education

KIERRA FRAZIER
Reporter

DeKALB — U.S. Representative Lauren Underwood held a town hall for students Tuesday at the Holmes Student Center and discussed how Congress plans to reauthorize the Higher Education Act this fall.

The town hall meeting was the first one Underwood held specifically for college students. Topics such as strategies on how to enforce gun control laws and better health conditions at detention centers at the border.

Underwood, who identifies as a Democrat, has been representing the 14th Congressional District of Illinois since January, after taking then-incumbent Republican Randy Hultgren's spot in the House. Underwood is the first woman, first person of color and the first millennial to represent the 14th district, according to her district website.

Speaker of the Senate Ian Pearson said the 14th Congressional District includes almost 3,000 NIU students and more than 27,000 alumni. NIU is part of the 16th Congressional District, while

Sycamore and parts of DeKalb are part of the 14th District.

“ Funding colleges and universities shouldn't be controversial.”

LAUREN UNDERWOOD
U.S. Representative

Underwood said since being elected, she's been working hard within Congress to protect the Affordable Care Act and push forward two gun prevention bills: H.R. 8 Bipartisan Background Checks Act and H.R. 1112 Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2019.

"We've been working to expand access to healthcare — high quality and affordable healthcare — and protecting the Affordable Care Act to allow anybody, especially students who are under age 26, to remain on your parent's insurance," Underwood said.

Underwood, a member of the House Committee on Education

and Labor, said this fall the committee will be considering reauthorizing the Higher Education Act.

The Higher Education Act was passed in 1965 and has since been rewritten eight times. Reauthorization for the act could make changes to affordability and college costs, as well as better information for programs such as student loans and campus safety, according to the American Council on Education website.

Underwood said she has spoken to NIU President Lisa Freeman and other campus officials about the act.

Pearson asked Underwood during the meeting how Congress members plan to seek an agreement on the act, given the various versions made throughout previous years.

"Funding colleges and universities shouldn't be controversial," Underwood said. "I don't know what will happen in terms of bipartisan practice, but I am hopeful because we don't have Democratic or Republican colleges."

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Maddie Barrett | Northern Star

Daniel Crawford (left) and CJ Perez answer questions at a Tuesday news conference about the upcoming game against the University of Utah.

Campusmeets
Community
a business block party

September 5 | 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Commons (Rain location Duke Ellington Ballroom)

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The DeKalb area businesses welcome the NIU campus to the community!

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