

'Divergent' exceeds audience's expectations

By Bailey VenJohn
Staff reporter

"The movie will never be as good as the book." This is a quote I typically find to be true, especially because I prefer to read a book before watching the movie. "Divergent" comes close to falsifying this quote.

The thing that I hear most commonly to describe the "Divergent" series is that it is like the "Hunger Games" trilogy. "Divergent" has many similar characteristics as the "Hunger Games" but provides its own twists.

"Divergent" takes place in the future in a big city type setting. It is set after a catastrophe has wiped out most of the world's population.

The city overall is similar to what I had imagined. It looks like a bunch of modern day sky scrapers encircled by an extremely tall fence. From afar it looks like today's cities but as you get a closer look you can tell it isn't your average metropolis.

The city operates around the

concept of factions. There are five different factions. Abnegation are selfless, Dauntless are the protectors and the fearless, Candor speak only the truth, Amity are the farmers and thrive through peace, lastly are the Erudite who crave knowledge. There are also the Factionless, those who never succeeded in a faction and are like the homeless.

When they come of age, everyone takes a test and chooses which faction they want to be a part of for the rest of their lives.

The book and movie focus on Beatrice Prior, played by Shailene Woodley, and her life during the choosing and after.

The movie starts out with a sweeping scene over the city. The voice of Beatrice gives an overview of the society. It explains the idea of the five different factions and the Factionless.

The plot starts out with the preparation of Beatrice to take her aptitude test to determine what faction she belongs in. Her test

results come back inconclusive and she is told that she is divergent. In other words, she is left to determine which faction she belongs in herself and also find out the meaning behind the word divergent.

Much to her family's surprise, she chooses to join Dauntless and the wild lifestyle they love.

After rigorous training and almost being cut from Dauntless, Beatrice, who changed her name to Tris when she joined her new faction, makes the cut and is officially deemed with the title Dauntless.

While on this adventure, Tris learns more about what being divergent means and that the government is hunting down those with this trend because they are a threat to the government.

She also finds a love interest in a guy by the name of Four, one of her Dauntless trainers. Actor Theo James plays the character Four perfectly.

The government creates an uprising that few, including Tris, know how to stop. She must find a way to keep herself alive, preferably along with her family and those she loves while putting an end to the government's wrongdoings.

The movie brought to life the thrilling adventure that the book had depicted. I would watch it again, although it's really long at two hours and 20 minutes.

The cast fit their roles well and includes a personal favorite, Miles Teller, as Peter, a fellow Dauntless transfer initiate.

Overall I suggest the movie to anyone, those who have read the book and haven't.

It is sure to entertain all and live up to the expectations of the book readers.

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Former Northwestern QB leads coalition to unionize

By Garrett Chapman
Staff reporter

Kain Colter, senior quarterback at Northwestern, is leading a group of his teammates in beginning the process of creating a labor union to represent collegiate athletes. The United Steelworkers assisted Luke Bonner, former UMass basketball player, Ramogi Huma, president of the National College Players Association (NCPA), and Colter to form the group.

The NCPA put together the All Players United (APU) during the 2013 season. When the three started the movement, it led to players from Northwestern, Georgia, and Georgia Tech showing off "#APU" somewhere on their uniform.

The movement will give college athletes a chance to provide their opinions and suggestions to the NCAA. The organization wants

representation when it comes to decisions regarding conditions for student-athletes. Huma said, "Athletes deserve an equal voice when it comes to their physical, academic and financial protections."

Colter made it clear that the movement is not all about money. The group has 11 goals they are trying to achieve. As stated on NCPAnow.org, the

- goals are:
1. Minimize college athletes' brain trauma risks.
 2. Raise the scholarship amount.
 3. Prevent players from being stuck paying sports-related medical expenses.
 4. Increase graduation rates.
 5. Protect educational opportunities for student-athletes in good standing.
 6. Prohibit universities from using a permanent injury suffered during athletics as a reason to reduce/eliminate a

7. Establish and enforce uniform safety guidelines in all sports to help prevent serious injuries and avoidable deaths.
 8. Eliminate restrictions on legitimate employment and player's ability to directly benefit from commercial opportunities.
 9. Prohibit the punishment of college athletes that have not committed a violation.
 10. Guarantee that college athletes are granted an athletic release from their university if they wish to transfer schools.
 11. Allow college athletes of all sports the ability to transfer schools one time without punishment.
- Colter said, "The current model resembles a dictatorship with the NCAA putting rules and regulations on students without their input." If this union were to successfully earn a spot at the table, they could argue to get things that

student-athletes have never had before. The union would reason for continuing medical coverage after graduation of injuries that happen during the sport. The union will also push for more intense concussion testing to prevent brain injuries.

Colleges earn multibillion dollars from their sports teams that are successful. The college receives money from fan attendance, bowl games, merchandise and much more. All of these ways of getting money is an effect of the athletes themselves.

Most fans attend to watch the superstars and future players of the League. The team is nominated for a bowl game due to the way the athletes performed that season.

Fans buy merchandise with the players name displayed on them. Simply said, colleges would not have the amount of money they do if it weren't for the athletes. Most student-athletes want a

cut of the money they earn their school.

Colter said being a student-athlete is a job. During season, his team spends roughly 60 hours a week doing things related to football. Northwestern devotes around 20 hours a week to football.

The players do not get a summer or winter break that a student does. Every player must obey dozens of rules in order to retain their scholarship. A student-athlete is supposed to be a student before an athlete, but the players cannot schedule certain classes because the class interferes with practice.

The APU movement will have a week long hearing against the NCAA. After the hearing the labor board's director will have 30 days to make a decision.

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