Sports Culture: The Perception of the Collegiate Athlete

Eric Anderson

Kin 442
Stereotyping

- Big, dumb guys
- Don’t care about school
- BMOC – ‘Big Man on Campus’
  - Bar scene
  - Girls
Pressures

• Performance and Perception
  – Win = Beloved
  – Lose = Blamed

• Constant Recognition
  – Spotlight

• Representation of student body
Questions

• Do students perceive athletes differently?
• How do athletes deal with the stigmas?
• Are there any myths that athletes wish to dismiss?
• How do athletes balance a class schedule while still maintaining their athletic prowess?
• Do athletes feel pressures from the student body and public? Does this public perception change with performance?
• What can be done to change such stigmas?