



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Patrick West is February Student of the Month**

For immediate release  
March 21, 1997

Patrick A. West, a 1995 graduate of Madison (Indiana) Consolidated High School and a secondary education major at the University of Southern Indiana, has been named the University's Student of the Month for February. The honor is part of a program initiated last fall to recognize the student leadership.

West was nominated by fellow education major Lisa Amiano, who declared, "We have been called the generation without leadership. We have been criticized for a lack of determination and drive and our failure to take on responsibility. It takes a very special individual to prove our critics wrong.

"It takes someone who has not only taken on the responsibility of being a student leader, but who has devoted endless time to put his heart and soul into an organization he believes deeply in. The past month has been extremely busy for the entire Student Government Association...the reconstruction of the entire organization by the development of a new constitution has taken a tremendous amount of time and effort, and for that, the entire organization should be applauded. It has been the work of one individual who, I believe, deserves special recognition. Patrick A. West, adding to his duties as chief justice of the court, has taken on SGA elections '97 with unfailing enthusiasm and dedication. He has managed to get students excited in anticipation of an event that for so long has been met by...disinterest. He has opened the eyes of many USI students to the importance of their individual voice...His shining example of what it means to be a leader definitely deserves to be recognized."

In addition to his education studies, with emphasis on the social sciences, and his chief justice duties, West has been a member and vice president of the Student Ambassadors, a resident assistant in student housing, a student mentor in the University Division options program, and during summer pre-registration periods for new students, is an AMIGO (Ask Me I Give Orientation).

The son of Thomas and Carolyn West, 2244 Shawnee Drive, Madison, he was vice president of his high school class two years and worked on the school's newspaper and yearbook. He also was active with his church youth group.