4th Quarter 2000
KOMU-TV Columbia, Missouri

There follows a listing of some of the significant issues responded to by station KOMU-TV through its news programming for the period October 1, 2000 to December 30, 2000. The listing is by no means exhaustive, but instead shows the depth and breadth of coverage. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance.

4th Quarter Issues: Consumer Issues, Crime, Drug/Alcohol Abuse, Government, Health, Education, Jobs/Economy

Description of Issue	Program/ Segment	Date	Time	Duration	Narration of Type and Description of Program/Segment
Government Jobs/Economy Education Crime Health Drug/Alcohol Abuse	NBC8 News at 6 NBC8 News at 10	10/ 1- 11/ 7	6 pm 10 pm	5 hours +	NBC8 News provided the most in-depth coverage of the election of 200 of any of the local television stations. Our commitment went beyond the regular newscasts, to two hour-long specials, numerous interrupts, and a comprehensive coverage of the issues of the election.
Government	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 1	10 pm	2:00	Will Missouri's Senate candidates end up debating?... Conflicting answers from two campaigns. This back-and-forth battle of press releases began Saturday night... and has yet to be resolved. The disagreement is over when the two will debate.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 1	10 pm	2:00	Police say about 120 domestic violence cases occur each month in Columbia. Unfortunately, the department estimates only a quarter of cases are even reported. There's good news for those working to stop domestic violence. more national funding for five years and more shelters for these victims. A new state law that began a month ago also helps Columbia police. Second-time domestic violence offenders are now charged with heavier penalties.

Drug/Alcohol Abuse	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 2	6 pm	1:30	Hermann officials have had trouble controlling the large crowds, and want to keep things safe for our patrons. That means no parties at Stone Hill Winery, where Oktoberfest started in Hermann. And that's a big risk, considering how important the festivities are to the economy of this small town rolling.
Government	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 2-3	10 pm	10:00	An in-depth investigation looked into irregularities and law violations in Clark, Missouri, there the city council had been dysfunctional.
Crime	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 3	6 pm	2:00	Police responded to six burglaries from late Friday night until early Saturday morning in Columbia. The homes are all within walking distance of each other on Mayrgene, Again, Broadhead and Hope Place. Police say this burglar tries to quickly hit as many houses as possible late at night when no one's home. They also say he takes mostly money, jewelry or other items that are easy to carry.
Drug/Alcohol Abuse	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 4	6 pm	2:00	Drunk drivers in Missouri might soon hit the brakes, if Congress gets its way. A bill passed this week urges states to lower blood-alcohol content to point-zero-eight. Missouri's is point one-zero. Under the measure, Missouri could lose millions of dollars of Federal highway funding, if it doesn't adopt the point-oh-eight blood alcohol content plan.
Government	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 4	10 pm	2:00	Columbia officials try to decide whether to take a dip in a lake. The City Council resumes discussions tonight about the possible purchase of the Stephens Lake property. Just how much would the city pay for a lake? Stephens College wants 10-million dollars for this 111-acre property. The City Council agreed in June to work with the Saint Louis-based Trust for Public Land.
Health	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 5	6 pm	2:00	California Fire Chief Allen Smith says if people won't buy smoke detectors, he'll give them away. A California business is donating fire detectors to the department. Volunteers will start distributing them tomorrow. The fire department will have a box of five hundred of these next week and they want to make sure at least one gets into every home in California. End result...there should be no home in the city of California without smoke detectors.

Health	NBC8 News at 10	10/5	10 pm	2:00	Nearly 15 percent of all Americans are going to suffer from some sort of depressive disorder. And those are just the ones that are diagnosed. There's so many others that are what I call silently suffering. It really is like a common cold, that one in five people will go through a depression in their lifetime. And it doesn't have to do with willpower and it doesn't have to do with self-worth. It has to do with how our bodies are created. Many people think feeling depressed is normal.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	10/6	10 pm	2:00	Columbia police are still looking for a man who robbed a Columbia bank this afternoon. The man robbed the Union Planters Bank near Green Meadows and South Providence Road. Police found this man's sunglasses, black jacket and cream-colored baseball cap in a dumpster behind a nearby restaurant, just after 1:30. Police say this man gave a teller a note, demanding money, and indicated he had a weapon.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	10/7	6 pm	2:00	Animal experts investigate a complaint of abuse against a traveling exotic cat show at the Boone County Fairgrounds. A source close to the Central Missouri Humane Society made a call to the U-S Department of Agriculture...alleging longstanding mistreatment of animals at the "Exotic Endangered Cats of the World Show." The owners of that Florida-based exhibit have been in town since Wednesday. Yaro and Barbara Hoffman are setting up for a three-day performance run beginning tomorrow afternoon.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 10	10/8	10 pm	2:00	We're experiencing a taste of winter in early fall. But before temperatures *really* drop... energy experts say you should make sure, your home is ready *now. The Hunters say they weren't ready for the weather that hit Columbia this past week. We had checked the switch doors, we had checked the circuit breakers, everything we could. When Star Heating got here. We actually found the problem was back here. The fuse had not blown, but had gone bad.

Education	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 9	6 pm	4:00	One solution for preventing school violence is to turn to the teens themselves. No school is problem free and no one knows that better than the students who've spent two days... tossing around ideas on how to stop violence and weaving plans to create trust. Since the Columbine incident there's been a lot more stuff, there's character education programs there's adolescence safety awareness programs and they're starting out in the elementary schools, which is where they need to start it. Start it when they're young you get the point across.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 9	10 pm	2:00	Natural gas users will pay at least another 100 dollars to heat their homes this winter. Ameren U-E predicts a big jump in heating costs this winter-- as much as 30 percent. The main reason for higher natural gas rates this winter is the higher wholesale cost of gas from our suppliers.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 10	6 pm	3:00	And, some Lake of the Ozarks businesses also face challenges. Our cool, fall weather means trouble for a town that relies on fun in the sun. Now, those businesses are trying to shine through this fall season. There aren't many boats on the lake today, which is a drastic change compared to the rush of last summer. Boating retail manager Russ Martin says it happens every year. It's common during this time of year for us to have somewhat of a slowdown. People go back to school, kids are in school, got a lot of athletics, people are back in the cities, so they don't come down here as much.
Government	NBC8 News at 10`	10/ 11	10 pm	2:00	Passers-by encouraged ninety-year-old Granny D as she walked down Missouri Boulevard in Jefferson City walking in support of campaign finance reform. Her walk across Missouri started on September 25th in Kansas City and she plans to finish in St. Louis on November 1st. Aside from attracting attention with her walk....Granny D is speaking to encourage public funding of campaigns....keeping politicians accountable for the money....and she made that point at a Proposition B rally on the capitol steps.

Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 12	6 pm	2:00	The Missouri Department of Transportation is putting up hundreds of highway signs that they hope will convince you they're doing their job. MO-DOT is putting thousands of taxpayer dollars into signs, and not roads. Drivers outside of Jefferson City are seeing something new on their way to work. Hundreds of signs, like this one, are popping up all over Missouri. Their goal: To Show Taxpayers Progress.
Education	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 12	10 pm	1:45	For Mid-Missouri who chose to have both parents work outside the home....often the kids stay home alone. Schools spent the day telling parents supervised after school activities are an option. After the school bell rings do you know what your kids are doing, well the parents of these Shepard Elementary students do. The kids gather in the cafeteria for after school activities, like tie-dyeing, camping, card games and other structured activities.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 13	6 pm	3:00	The Fulton State Hospital fires five workers, after a patient escaped in August. Now, at least one of them calls the firings "unfair." The hospital investigated the escape of a suicidal patient for six weeks. The client managed to escape from "this" facility, the Maximum Security Psychiatric Center. Tim McAlpin is one of the fired workers. He got a letter, saying he failed to make sure the patient was in bed the night he escaped. But, McAlpine says, a silhouette of a body in the bed made him think the patient was asleep.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 14	6 pm	2:00	High prices at the pump push some drivers into smaller cars. Rising gas prices are affecting local auto dealers. Right now, the average price for a gallon of gas in Columbia is a Dollar Fifty Five. And the rising cost of filling-up is hurting sales of Sport Utility Vehicles. The reason: people who bought their SUV's when gas prices were low, are now starting to feel the pinch at the pump.

Government	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 15	10 pm	5:00	A big night in Missouri politics as the candidates in the two most important races do battle...with words. Senate candidates Mel Carnahan and John Ashcroft debated each other in Kansas City, while gubernatorial candidates Bob Holden and Jim Talent debated in Springfield. We have team coverage tonight of both contests. Watching tonight's debate was more like watching a talk show than a political event. A variety of people in the audience asked the two candidates questions at the historical Gem Theater. The candidates both agreed on some points but disagreed on how to implement their policies.
Health	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 16	6 pm	2:00	Receiving the news that you need a bone marrow transplant is devastating. But, it doesn't always mean death, unless you can't find a donor. And for African Americans it's especially difficult to find donors. In the U-S low numbers of African Americans on the national registry of bone marrow donors are a problem. The need is great. African Americans have a 20 percent chance of finding a donor, while Caucasians have an 80 percent chance.
Consumer Issues/Education	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 16	10 pm	2:00	A national study shows the price of a college degree continues to rise faster than inflation. But many Missouri students are going to college for free. David Steffes is a sophomore at Moberly Area Community College. But, he hasn't paid one cent for his tuition. David is one of four thousand Missouri college students in the A-Plus Program. They get free tuition and books at any public community or state technical college, for attending a certified A-Plus high school and maintaining a two-point-five G-P-A, among other requirements.
Government	NBC8 News at 6 NBC8 News at 10	10/ 17- 12/ 31	6 pm 10 pm	10 hours +	The death of Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan in a plane crash the night of October 16 put he newsroom in motion for unprecedented coverage of the death and the impact it had on the government and the election to come. Coverage came in all shows and in special reports throughout the quarter.

Government	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 22	10 pm	2:00	The City of Columbia has just two weeks to convince voters to approve a tax that would allow them to buy the Stephens Lake area. The City of Columbia organized an open house, to let voters, like the Bevins', see what the proposed tax increase would pay for. Community members could wander the 110-acre land and check out possible proposals like the park plan, an arboretum plan and a golf course plan that illustrate uses for the land.
Education	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 23	6 pm	3:00	Contributions to Children's Trust Fund are building up quickly. Jean Carnahan named the fund as the beneficiary of donations in her late husband's name. The fund is beginning to see the effects of her decision. The letters are starting to pile up, sending sympathy and other thoughts. And they're coming from all over the state. The fund has now received 12-thousand dollars and about 300 letters in the last few days. That includes some cards and donations mourners gave at last Thursday's public viewing.
Government	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 23	10 pm	2:00	Missouri state officials are ready to approve deer hunting in Rock Bridge State Park, just outside Columbia. Conservation officials say the park's deer population is about 55 per square mile. But, experts say, that's more than double what the area can support. So, they say, the state must step in to control the deer because the animals eat farm crops, cause traffic crashes, and hurt smaller mammals by over-grazing.
Education	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 25	6 pm	3:00	The Columbia Housing Authority gives the Boys and Girls Club two more months to re--organize. The Columbia Housing Authority met today...faced with a weak and frail Boys and Girls Club. Strengthen the club is the authority's goal....but it stopped short of making a long-term pledge of support The board discussed the need for a Club director, and nation-wide search for that person has already begun. They also acknowledged the club is low on resources, and that it needs better facilities.

Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 26	6 pm	2:00	The latest must-have toy of the season is making some buyers unhappy, even when they *can* get their hands on one. It's a game that Circuit City is forcing you to buy with the system. There's like no other way around it. They won't sell it for $299. $299. That's the retail price Sony is asking for its new play station 2. But circuit city won't sell the console by itself. Instead, the store adds a game called fantasizing, and then sells the set for $349. That upsets customers.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 27	6 pm	2:00	A Columbia grocery store is closing tomorrow, three days earlier than planned. Checkers at Nowell's at West Worley are serving some of their last customers. Decreasing sales are forcing it to close, after 43 years in business. The company's marketing director says changes in the community have led to changing shopping patterns. The company's other stores benefit from that shift in shopping patterns. And as grocery stores disappear from downtown, they pop up on the periphery, like here behind me on Broadway and Fairview. Here a grocery chain from Iowa emerges. This map shows three grocery stores that have closed near downtown...and existing ones in bigger buildings around town.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 28	10 pm	2:00	Hundreds of Mid-Missourians joined millions across the country involved in volunteer projects today. As a part of Make a Difference Day, Local volunteer Susan Leonard came up with an idea to give Christmas stockings filled with toys to needy children. And with participation growing every year, lots of people are getting involved. The 1200 stockings created today will go to The Voluntary Action Center to be passed out with their Adopt a family program and to benefit the Ronald McDonald House in December.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 29	10 pm	2:00	A Highway Patrol officer kills a mid-Missouri man...after the man pointed a gun at other officers. The officer shot to death 41-year-old Bradley Davis of Vichy late Saturday night. The officers were investigating a domestic dispute at Davis' home. According to the patrol's report, Davis appeared to be intoxicated.

Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 30	10 pm	2:00	The blaze began about 10 this morning at Edwards Fiberglass Company, leaving only this burned-out framework. The fire started here, on the north side of the building. Luckily, however, only two of the 15 workers were on this side. The others were on the south side of the building. One of the two workers is hospitalized with third-degree burns in Columbia. The other is being treated for smoke inhalation. The other workers were treated for minor injuries at a nearby emergency room, then later released. Company officials think it may have been a chemical fire, which started when some acetone exploded inside the plant.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	10/ 31	6 pm	2:00	Propane is the only way to heat homes with no access to natural gas lines. Consumers paid 61 cents per gallon last year, compared to a dollar 10 this year...which makes a 49-cent increase just to stay warm. The Missouri Gas Propane Association has some tips to lower costs...fill your tank early to avoid high demand, talk to your local supplier to arrange billing plans, and make sure your furnace is checked. Local propane suppliers say they couldn't comment on camera about the increase in prices.
Health	NBC8 News at 10	10/ 31	10 pm	2:00	Halloween night turned out to be a little less scary in Moberly, thanks to some local businesses. This is the second time that Carrie Steuber organized Safe Halloween. She says her favorite part is seeing the kids, but she appreciates help from the community. It's wonderful that the local businesses come out and help us and support the community, so the kids can have a safe trick-or-treating.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 1	6 pm	2:00	The economy in Mexico, Missouri is doing well and unemployment is low. But, the city council is still trying to attract new businesses to downtown. Although Mexico is doing well now, the council wants to make sure prosperity continues into the 21st century. City Administrator John Parrott says most companies in Mexico are manufacturing and distribution businesses. City officials hope a new business incubator project brings more high-tech companies and jobs to town. The program provides low-cost office space with high-speed Internet access, phone lines and furniture to hometown start-up businesses.

Government	NBC8 News at 6	11/2	6 pm	2:00	The commission has been discussing the purchase of the fairgrounds that cost Boone County residents millions of dollars. Boone County bought the grounds for two-point-eight million dollars last year. But, many people are unhappy, because the fairground loses money. The land's used mostly as an expo center. Now, the commission has two proposals it hopes can make the fairgrounds more profitable. The first suggests using the land for an indoor ice arena, for minor league hockey and public skating. The other calls for a minor league baseball park on the grounds.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	11/3	6 pm	2:00	Farmers from 34 states are in Mid-Missouri this weekend, for their annual Small Farm and Trade Show at the Boone County Fairgrounds. About 40 people own alpacas in Missouri. Dale Pessin became one of them two years ago. Now, she's sharing her experiences at the trade show. We got involved in it because I wanted to deal with the fiber of the animals, and we discovered they are wonderful creatures. They're sweet, they're easy to handle. The trade show also shows small farmers other ways to survive against corporate farms. The biggest difference is the marketing. In this seminar and in the last one we have lots of stuff about marketing, because marketing is important. Marketing is everything. So, the show has sessions with names like "pumpkins and profitability." And, exhibitors show and explain their products. In Missouri, there are about 100,000 farmers; 85% of them are small farmers working mostly part time.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	11/3	10 pm	2:00	Some employees walked off the job this morning at the A-B Chance Company in Centralia. Martha Alexander knows first-hand what a strike can do to a family. Her dad went on strike in 1960, when he worked for Chance. That was the last time workers walked out at the electrical supply company. And, if they don't reach an agreement with the company before next Monday, Alexander will have to find a way to support her family during the strike. Most workers turned down today's contract offer.

Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 4	10 pm	2:00	Growers and families came to the Columbia Farmers Market for one last stop this season. Mid-Missourians took part in today's events by buying baked goods, produce and taking part in crafts. A twenty- year tradition, the farmers market attracts more visitors every year. And the Farmers Market has dramatically increased the number of growers that sell to the market. There were only three farmers in 19-80. Now there are almost 100.
Crime	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 8	6 pm	2:00	A Columbia man with a prior assault record is charged with killing two relatives and wounding two other people. Police say the shootings happened in front of the suspect's children. 5-12 Mary Street in Columbia is quiet after last night's shootings. Police say this is where 27-year-old Deandra Buchanan shot and killed his aunt Juanita Hoffman and his stepfather William Jefferson. He allegedly shot his girlfriend Angela Brown here too...while their two small daughters watched. Police say Buchanan then walked to West Sexton, got into a car with Jerry Key, and shot Key in the chest.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 8	10 pm	2:00	That double murder happened in an area where Columbia Police and residents were already trying to clean up the Ridgeway neighborhood. Six months ago, it wasn't safe for Vernon Forbes to walk in his neighborhood. But, police, social agencies and residents formed a task force to help the neighborhood lower one of the highest crime rates in Columbia. Forbes is one of the founders of the Ridgeway Neighborhood Association, which began four years ago
Health	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 9	10 pm	4:00	The Boone Hospital Pharmacy no longer sells the so-called morning-after pill. Pharmacists HERE say they carried the prescription for 6 months, sold one product, and due to the laws of supply and demand... no longer carry it. Schnucks Pharmacy experienced a similar situation. Kilgore's Pharmacy carries emergency contraception, but sales have been low. As of Fall of '98, Wal-mart says the lack of customer demand stopped sales. Flow's Pharmacy doesn't carry it....and won't say why.

Consumer Issues Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 10	6 pm	4:00	In November of 19-98, most hog farmers in Mid-Missouri got less than 10 cents per pound for the pigs they sold. That low price put many farmers out of business. Also in November of 19-98, a small group of Mid-Missouri farmers was getting more than 40 cents per pound for their hogs. Patchwork Family Farms in Columbia was paying that higher price to farmers who raise hogs under certain conditions. And, Patchwork continues to do so. Patchwork Family Farms, a non-profit program designed to keep independent hog farmers in business.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 10	10 pm	3:00	One reason for deer hunting in Missouri is to reduce road kills. But, unfortunately, that happens too often... especially in the next few weeks. The Missouri Highway Patrol says two people die each year from hitting deer. And the patrol says the number of wrecks increases in November as deer scatter...running from hunters. November is peak breeding season. And during the breeding season, deer move over larger areas and during different times of the day than they normally do. Bucks are very active, so we not only see an increase in number of deer accidents but a higher proportion involve bucks.
Government	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 13	6 pm	2:00	First, the Camden County Jail was too crowded. So, it expanded from 22 to 110 beds. But, more inmates also means higher costs...including medical care. So the Camden County Commission and the sheriff are trying to work out a solution with a local hospital. The sheriff says some inmates don't take their prescription drugs, while others exchange drugs with other inmates. And some doctors don't want to risk dealing with those problems. About 80 prisoners come through the jail each day. So, officials are trying to find ways to medically treat them.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 13	10 pm	5:00	There's a maximum-security prison with no doors, no guards and no violence. And, it's in Jefferson City. Two inmates and a prison official started the program six years ago. It's based on the belief that all behavior is learned, so it can be unlearned. And that's true, whether it's criminal behavior, drug addiction or prejudice. Cline says about 70 percent of I-T-C graduates stay drug-free. And, all 20 I-T-C grads released from prison haven't committed any more crimes.

Consumer Issues Government	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 14	6 pm	2:00	You might have money in Missouri...and not even know it. About one out of 10 people have unclaimed property, but don't even know it. Now, a new link on the state treasurer's website makes it quick and easy to find out. Employees in the treasurer's office say they used to spend most of their time searching their database to see if people had unclaimed property. But, you can search for free on your own, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
Education	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 15	6 pm	2:00	And a new policy at the University of Missouri could force some teachers back to class...to study English. A program to help international teachers brush up on their speaking skills, like their assistants already are. Students at the four campuses across the state say they sometimes can't understand people who are supposed to help them with their education. But policies are in place to encourage teaching assistants and professors to improve their English skills. Right now TAs are already required to go through a pretty strict process. And so we focused primarily on professors because there was no set policy, there was no criteria for their English proficiency.
Health	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 15	10 pm	2:00	Anyone living with HIV or AIDS feel its effects physically, emotionally, and financially. HIV medications are very expensive. People have insurance to pay for them. But there are a lot of people that don't. and quite frankly, I mean they range from anywhere from 15-35 hundred dollars per month. Not only are they expensive, but patients like Chris face a strict pill-taking schedules that's hard to follow. When I first started taking them I didn't take them. there were so many of them it got to be such a hassle to have to wake up in the morning and take all my pills, and to remember to take all my pills at different times. Currently, some patients have to take up to 10 pills a day. This is a regimen that doctors hope science will improve. The FDA just approved new combination drug called Trizivir. It's expected to reduce the number of pills patients take. This is good news for people living with the HIV or AIDS.. and the doctors who provide care. We tell them If you take your pills, your lifespan is indefinite. HIV has turned into a chronic illness like diabetes or high blood pressure, where you give medications now to prevent complications later.

Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 16	10 pm	2:00	Kevin Street's turkey farm is one of more than 180 in the area. It's watching a turkey grow from a day old to 15 weeks, knowing that you've done the best you can and that someone is really going to enjoy eating this bird. Chicks come here the moment they're born. After six weeks, most survive to move to a grow-out barn like this one. Thanksgiving's only one week away. So, you'd think turkeys and farmers may be getting anxious. But, Street says, that's not the case. People eat turkey 365 days a year. You can't make your turkey grow any faster.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 17	6 pm	4:00	If you think you need more hours in the day to get everything done, you're not alone. Most parents with kids face time crunches everyday. A Mid-Missouri mom says- she has the answer....an overworked woman who took matters...and time...into her own hands. When you're working full time it really makes it difficult to chase kids, to do your errands and get all their activities done and still have time to feel like it's quality time. The quality time that these parents are sharing with their kids. It's party time at school, but only a hand-full of parents could celebrate.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 18	6 pm	2:00	With the holidays coming, many people are traveling to visit family or just get away for the weekend. According to Triple A estimates, a record 38 point nine million families will travel more than 100 miles to reach their Thanksgiving destination this year. A weekend get away will cost more this holiday season. Jeff Barnard is going away this thanksgiving and he's already thought about the additional costs due to higher gas prices. When we bought a new car we wanted something smaller with lower less gas mileage. Others say the high gas prices have forced them to make lifestyle changes.

Health	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 18	10 pm	2:00	This week, M-U's School of Nursing ended its midwifery (mid-WIFF-ury) program. This loss could affect expectant mothers. A midwife delivered Deedee Farris Folkers youngest child at her home. "With my first birth I had an obstetrician, and my self was not satisfied with the quality of care that I was given. I didn't feel that it was personable...So for my second birth I chose a midwife." But other moms won't get that same care if they turn to University Hospital. It will no longer offer alternative birth care. Also, the school will not enroll new students in the midwifery program. They will have to go to Kansas City to get similar training.
Education	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 19	10 pm	2:00	Students in Osage County are ditching trailers in favor of real classrooms. A project twelve years in the works, officially opens. And, after four elections to try to pass the 3.6 million dollar bond needed, enter Linn Missouri's latest addition, a new high school. "There are more than 400 parking spaces in the new facility. The old school didn't even have a parking lot. Which is just one of the many benefits the Superintendent thinks will help students learn. We have a lot more equipment and a lot more room than we've had. In the past, we had areas that weren't well lit, there will be heating and cooling and certainly kids will have the opportunity to learn. It took one year to build and about five days to move into the spacious facility, but students only missed two days of classes.
Jobs/Economy Health	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 20	6 pm	3:00	Sixty laid-off University Hospital workers are looking for new jobs. And, those workers who didn't lose their jobs Friday will have to wait until early next year to find out if their future is secure. To some University Hospital employees, the phrase "job security" is like a foreign language. With 60 layoffs this month, and possibly more to come in February, you may think some University Hospital employees are worried they might be next to get a pink slip. And, you're right. I talked with several hospital workers today, who admit they're worried about keeping their jobs. But, none of them would talk to me on-camera.

Government	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 21	6 pm	2:00	Turning 16 used to mean a license to drive in Missouri. But a new law will make young drivers get more experience before getting behind the wheel. Tim Layton is getting behind the wheel for the first time, during his driver education class at Jefferson City High School. "It's great because I won't have to ride with my parents anymore, and I can go off and do stuff without them dropping me off everywhere. And I can go place to place without having somebody come pick me up." Layton says he'll rush to get his license when he turns 16 next week.
Health	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 21	10 pm	4:00	A rare retina disease left Lisa Betcher straining to see, but this new camera and goggles serve as a *portable* television system, making everyday tasks manageable. This camera allows me what I call *fill in the gaps* when I'm looking at the television, a lecture at school of mail that has very small print. They bear the fun name of "flipper goggles"....but they mean serious things for Lisa....she can focus the lens on images like a picture in a magazine... while also seeing a far distance by turning the direction of the camera. Lisa has undergone many surgeries and used investigational drugs to try to correct her vision... many unsuccessful. But, she is a good candidate for using the flipper goggles.
Jobs/Economy Health	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 22	6 pm	2:00	It's moving day for a Mid-Missouri hospital that's treated cancer patients for 60 years. If you listen carefully, you'll hear nothing at all. Reach for these cupboards, and they'll be bare. Until today, this was the in-patient wing of Ellis Fischel Cancer Center. But now, those services will be offered at University Hospital, in a move designed to expand research facilities and centralize care. University Hospital Director Keith Weinhold says the move will benefit patients.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 22	10 pm	5:00	It's Saturday night and . . like at many bars, people are meeting face-to-face for the first time. But at this Columbia bar - while the faces may be unfamiliar - the names and personalities aren't. It's a weekly party held by members of the Missouri Chat Room. Tonight they're going offline to meet in-person. And, it's just one of the ways people are using the internet to "hook-up." But some are questioning just how much you should trust online conversations.

Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 23	6 pm	2:00	For people away from their families on Thanksgiving, Columbia volunteers make sure they're not alone today. Anyone who's away from family could still gather with friends and community members today. Volunteers just finished cleaning up the free meal here at Lou's Palace in downtown Columbia. They wanted to make sure "Everyone Eats" on this special day.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 24	10 pm	5:00	Wherever you shop, if you overdo it, you can fall into debt very easily. If the total consumer-debt of the U-S was divided among the entire population, each one of us would owe five-thousand dollars. To buy or not to buy. For many people credit card debt and monthly payments have become a major concern. It is no wonder that a debt free living class taught at the Columbia Career Center has become a success. "Well I have been working full time and have had good jobs since I got out of college but it seems as if after ten years that I am not making that much progress financially because I have all these bills I have to pay. Erin Blaise signed up for the debt free living class taught by a former financial planner
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 26	10 pm	2:00	Robbed at gunpoint...Hannah Boyd is keeping a close eye on everyone that comes into her store. Saturday night she was working alone when she had the scare of her life. "He proceeded to pull a shot gun out and aim it at my head, and told me to give him the money." She gladly handed over more than 500 dollars to the robber, she says it wasn't worth risking her life. The owner is counting his blessings that it wasn't worse.
Drug/Alcohol Abuse	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 27	6 pm	2:00	Nine people died on Missouri roads over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. And, last year more than 20 percent of Thanksgiving injury accidents involved alcohol. Steve Chapman would just as soon forget any memory of last Christmas...and because of a near fatal accident caused by a drunk driver he barely can. Steve is only one of more than 300,000 people in the US that were injured last year in drunk driving crashes. But programs like MADD's tie a ribbon on hope to reduce those numbers.

Health	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 27	10 pm	2:00	Some Howard County residents say leakage from a hog farm is flooding a local creek. The water's pink, for about a three-mile stretch along Moniteau Creek. Most of the polluted water runs about four miles north of Rocheport, near Highway 40 and County Road 4-33. The Department of Natural Resources just left the area, after performing a water test searching for ammonia. As you can tell by the pinkish color of the water behind me, and by this water sample we just took, the water is potentially dangerous to its inhabitants. The D-N-R's preliminary tests suggest the pink hue is a chemical mix of hog waste, bacteria, and algae. It could take up to 28 days for the D-N-R to have the final test results. Some residents are angry the state didn't tell them about any potential danger.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 28	6 pm	3:00	It's the time of year a lot of us line up at the Post Office to send gifts to friends around the country. But, what's the cheapest way to go...and still get there on time? This time of the year, the Salvation Army knows the Columbia Post Office is the cool place to be.....but before you line up with the crowd.....you might want to line up the prices of our local shipping companies....For our test....we took six bunches of bananas--you'll see why bananas later---all weighing 2 pounds 7 ounces and put them in identical boxes. We then labeled each box for a different shipper and addressed them to an NBC 8 reporter in Washington DC.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 28	10 pm	2:00	National figures show 42 percent of abducted children are killed, even before they're reported missing. We've all seen posters like these in stores. And, thanks to them, one in every six missing children is eventually found. Now, Columbia Police have a new program to quickly find missing kids. We find that if a person abducts a child, and is intending to harm that child, it's usually done in the first one to three hours. And that's why that time is so critical to find these people. "Operation Lookout" is designed to alert local radio and T-V as soon as a missing child's reported.

Education	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 29	6 pm	2:00	Problems at Columbia's Boys and Girls Club are forcing the group to look for a new home. The decision is final -- After months of negotiating with the Columbia Housing Authority, directors at the Boys and Girls Club say they're through with the Blind Boone Center. Yesterday the Boys and Girls Club sent off this letter informing the Columbia Housing Authority that they will relocate to buildings NOT owned by the C-H-A. In the letter, Board President Jeffery Vogel says that this is a good move for the Club, and better serves all youth -- especially those from disadvantaged circumstances.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 29	10 pm	2:00	Sport Utility Vehicles may empty your pockets because of sticker shock and gas prices. But, they may save you money on insurance. State Farm Insurance announced a new pricing policy system this week. It's giving discounts to drivers who own "safe cars." And, these safe cars have more than just air bags. But, S-U-Vs aren't the only vehicles in this category. It also includes Mercedes-Benz, B-M-W and other luxury vehicles. Basically, this new vehicle discount is not about bigger or smaller cars. Basically, it is about vehicle safety
Drug/Alcohol Abuse	NBC8 News at 6	11/ 30	6 pm	2:00	The U-S Supreme Court ruled earlier this week against random traffic stops by police looking for drugs. N-B-C 8's Angela Cunningham tells us how that decision will affect the way local officers do their jobs. Mid-Missourians won't be pulled over anymore, while officers try to keep drugs off the streets. Our civil liberties are being protected. But, what about our neighborhoods? Fourth Amendment cases involved the tension between individual privacy, individual liberty, individual rights and effective law enforcement. Anytime the Supreme Court says to law enforcement, 'You are no longer allowed to use this particular enforcement tool,' that means that law enforcement will, at least to some extent, be less effective.

Crime Government	NBC8 News at 10	11/ 30	10 pm	2:00	Many Mid-Missouri jails don't have room to house all of their own prisoners. But there's one that still has some Morgan County Sheriff Sonny Earnest is opening the door to a brand new jail...that's about half empty. The county opened it last June. We went from a 15 capacity to an 88 capacity, and we're just holding our own prisoners. But, the five-point-three million dollar jail has held only 48 prisoners at the most. And, that's let the department catch up on unfinished business. For a county our size to have over 1,000 outstanding warrants is a little unreasonable. So, deputies are looking for people who are charged with various offenses. And, what does the public think of these sweeps? We get a lot of varied views. If you're one we're looking for, you're not quite so happy. On the other hand, but if you're some business that has a person with a bad check, and they're trying to get you picked up the last six months, then they're happy. And so are officers. The other jail was very, very old and now we come over to this computerized jail and its a much better environment to work in and much, much safer then the old jail.
Government	NBC8 News at 6	12/ 1	6 pm	2:00	Bunceton officials have had some big disagreements about running the city. And, those arguments caused two officials to resign. How the city spends its money is one reason Gerald Ulrich quit as a mayor. Another one was, we had a factory coming to Bunceton. And, after the last two years, I haven't had support of the council to continue bringing a plant there, which I think is vitally important for a small community." Now, the former mayor says, he'll concentrate on running his adult bookstore. The same day the mayor resigned, so did a city council member. A series of incidents that has been going on in the town is not in the best interest for the people in the city of Bunceton. Like trying to split the fire department between the city and the rural.
Health	NBC8 News at 10	12/ 2	10 pm	2:00	Thousands of children are born each year with facial birth defects. But to look at *these* faces, you'd never guess they once looked different. Angeliana Mastromarino is one of more than 200 children returning to the University of Missouri Children's Hospital to celebrate the holidays. Born just seven months ago, she suffered from cranial synostosis, a condition resulting in an abnormal head shape. They come back and you can't even tell they were operated on you can't even tell they ever had a problem.

Health Government	NBC8 News at 10	12/ 3	10 pm	2:00	The show-me-state will have to show the federal government that it's cracking down on underage smoking. If they don't, it could cost the state millions of dollars. Ryan Shakofsky of Columbia started smoking at the tender age of fourteen... and says he had little problem getting cigarettes as a teen. And, that's not uncommon for Missouri teens. A study published by the University of California in San Francisco reports that Missouri has a bad reputation for underage smoking.
Government	NBC8 News at 6	12/ 4	6 pm	4:00	Firefighters in Columbia are battling something other than blazes. Now they're preparing to *knock down* language barriers. "nino, nina o bebe, point at her and you're specifically asking her." These words are only a few of the Spanish phrases Columbia firefighters are learning. They want to be ready to communicate with Spanish speakers in an emergency. Rosalba is a resident of Columbia who's relieved to know they're prepared to help. Not only will Spanish speakers find it easier to communicate with firefighters, 9-1-1 operators are also prepared to handle foreign language calls.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	12/ 4	10 pm	2:00	Columbia police have another 86-thousand dollars to fight domestic violence. Columbia had five murders last month. And most of them had some connection with domestic violence. You may remember victims like Angela Brown, a mother of two who was shot and killed. Columbia Police have received more than 12-hundred domestic abuse calls this year. We are handling these cases pretty well. I am pleased to say that yes, our investigators are overloaded with cases. And there can be a point where you get too many cases for one investigator to keep following up on." Council member Almeta Crayton hopes the grant will help women use available resources.

Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	12/5	6 pm	2:00	When you send your holiday packages this year, you probably won't be sending bananas. Last week, we found the best shipping bargain for a three-day package was through the U-S Post Office. But this week, we found that money isn't always the only thing that matters. For our test...we took six bunches of bananas, all weighing about two and a half pounds, and put them in identical boxes. We used bananas because they bruise easily and rot quickly. We labeled each box for a different shipper...U-P-S, FedEx, the Post Office and all three companies through Mailboxes Etcetera. We had to send the U-P-S box one day later, because the Columbia office was closed. It's open only two hours each weekday.
Government	NBC8 News at 10	12/5	10 pm	2:00	There are fewer visitors at the Fayette Public Library, because of cutbacks in hours and the possible loss of its regional library membership. Most days of the week, patrons can come to the Fayette Public Library. But on Mondays and Tuesdays, the doors are closed and the library is empty ... except for Library Director Cathey Monkton. The cutbacks came after the Howard Country Library district asked voters to approve a tax increase three times. But voters turned them down. If the Fayette Library does lose its affiliation with the Daniel Boone Regional Library, patrons may see a decrease in the services the Fayette Library provides.
Health	NBC8 News at 6	12/6	6 pm	2:00	Jefferson City school officials confirm that tuberculosis has been in their high school. Someone's missing from Jeff City High School this week, after being diagnosed with an age-old and easily-spread disease. Tuberculosis, or T-B, is a bacterial disease which can permanently damage lungs, or kidneys, bones or the brain. And, a person can catch it only in the air, from someone's sneeze, cough or breathing. Officials say they doubt other people caught the disease, but they'll take precautions to make sure.

Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	12/6	10 pm	2:00	Some Jefferson City families could have new homes this holiday season. Christmas might come early for Mario and Isabel Silva, and 43 other low- to moderate-income families. Their search for affordable housing may end at 500 East Dunklin Street. A ribbon-cutting ceremony at Capital City Apartments officially made more affordable housing available. Tax credits and financing from five local banks made the five-point-nine million dollar project possible. And, that helps Jefferson City's Housing Authority charge below-market rents.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	12/7	6 pm	3:00	The mission...to find the toys kids want the most...and for parents find the toys kids will play with the most. Our weapons...these toys...we used both traditional toys and the toys that could be considered fads. Our targets...these kids...they range in age of 5 to 7, we focused on a variety of shapes and sizes. The plan was to trick the kids into playing with the toys...and then interrogating them on what they liked and disliked. Everything went according to plan...the children played with several different toys, some were very selective and played on one toy of choice. After the interrogation this is what we found out. Mission completed...we now know what toys kids want and what toys parents will like.
Health	NBC8 News at 6	12/8	6 pm	2:00	That's an exclamation you won't hear now from patients under 65 at the Boone County Health Department. Even though flu vaccine has finally arrived, vaccinations are restricted to certain people. So, older people can get their shots at the Health Department. But, no one can go to Mediquick, or Boone Hospital clinics, or University Hospital, because their supplies haven't arrived. Mediquick and others expect vaccines to come by next Friday, meaning the sting of the flu shot will be available for anyone who wants it.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	12/8	10 pm	2:00	The fires started a few months before Adam was born. That was the first time arson struck the Rush family. After replacing Christmas ornaments and family quilts, they moved on with life. But then, they became the victims of two more arsons. Rush doesn't believe anyone would target her family. In fact, six other arsons have occurred in her neighborhood. There are about 70 homes, but most of those fires were on Margaret, Franklin or Lorene streets. Luckily, no one's been killed or hurt. So, Rush started a neighborhood watch group.

Crime	NBC8 News at 10	12/ 10	10 pm	2:00	This week, one independent commission is reviewing the University of Missouri's police department. It was a busy day at M-U Police Headquarters. Officials from the Commission of Law Enforcement Accreditation, or CLEA are conducting a review of the department. CLEA, an independent national organization, is checking department procedure to decide whether it is up to standard. The organization sets more than 400-standards ranging from fiscal operation, patrol, and crime prevention methods. If we can put policies and procedures and match those standards, we will be a better run police department, liability issues would be less if the people follow the polities and procedures and that's what we're hoping for. Police Captain Chuck Issacson says this review will help officers do their jobs better. Officials won't find out until March whether or not they've met the standards to be accredited.
Education	NBC8 News at 6	12/ 12	6 pm	2:00	This *long* process in the courts, over last month's election, has helped some Jefferson City students with their homework. Civics, a course covering U-S government, is a required class for Missouri ninth-graders. Okay, so the Florida Supreme Court said they could do a recount of the disputed ballots. Jill Luebbert's class at Simonsen is studying the legal system. And that has some students paying extra attention to the news and politics.
Education	NBC8 News at 10	12/ 12	10 pm	2:00	It's hard to find extra space in an M-U dorm room. But that could change. Officials have a construction project that calls for knocking down seven residence halls and renovating the other 12. The plan also calls for building some new halls. But, the 280-million dollar project also means an increase in student housing fees...15 percent for students in renovated halls, and 20 percent for students in new halls.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	12/ 14	6 pm	2:00	The intersection of Route A-C and Old Highway 63 is busy at certain times of the day. MODot will try to fix that problem by rerouting A-C. The new route will have four lanes. Workers are already clearing and burning trees, and laying underground pipe along the new section. Crews will add lanes to Rock Quarry Road, Grindstone Avenue and Nifong Boulevard next spring. MoDot says construction will cause some delays, but not many more than already exist.

Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	12/ 15	10 pm	2:00	And, if you're driving, you may need to make a different call...just to get out of your driveway. Three words -- snow plow drivers. If you need someone to shovel your driveway, or plow your parking lot, snow plow drivers are getting a lot of calls right now. The weather's not too bad yet, but when the snow comes, it'll mean big business for Mid-Missouri snow removal services.
Education	NBC8 News at 6	12/ 18	6 pm	2:00	North Callaway R-1 High School is quiet today...it's been that way for a while. Weather cancelled classes all last week, except for three hours on Friday. Superintendent Tom Howard says ice on roads partially melted, then refroze over the weekend. People who live on gravel roads say there's no way you can go to school today. If they live in town or on a blacktop, even some of those people know, because their driveways are slick. I think most everybody knows there's no way we could have had school today.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	12/ 19	6 pm	2:00	A Mid-Missouri real-estate developer threatens to sue Boone County. Some Columbia residents have been fighting for more than a year to keep a trailer park out of their backyard. Commissioners say Windy Point is the right development for Boone County. But, they say, the location for the proposal is wrong. Mark Holsinger's lawn is a 30-acre scenic view. If the Windy Point development ever gets off the ground, that will give him a view of a trailer park. Holsinger says the land will eventually be developed.
Government	NBC8 News at 10	12/ 21	10 pm	2:00	You're driving along at 70 miles per hour, and suddenly traffic in front of you is stopped. A scary thought, but an everyday reality if your driving on HWY 63 in North Columbia. That's where a railroad intersects the highway, and it has proved deadly in the past. "A man was driving at 70 miles per hour and rear ended a school bus. I unfortunately had to witness it and watched him die." The school bus stopped in the middle of the highway but it wasn't breaking the law.

Government	NBC8 News at 6	12/ 22	6 pm	2:00	With a long shovel-shaped snout and lizard-like tail, a pallid sturgeon looks like a dinosaur. Probably not too surprising since its ancestors date back 70 million years. In recent years, thousands of young pallid sturgeon have been raised in hatcheries and released into the Missouri River. U-S Fish and Wildlife biologist Jim Milligan is trying to make sure the dinosaur-like fish has the natural habitat it needs to reproduce and grow. Heading south out of the town of Glasgow, Milligan is on his way to the Lisbon Bottoms Wildlife Refuge. During the flood of 19-95, the Missouri River cut a chute through the Lisbon Bottoms. The chute has become a slow-moving backwater where fish and birds can more easily reproduce. "We've collected larval pallid sturgeon in this chute in 98-99. Documented three larval pallids about an inch long and the first larval pallids that have ever been collected anywhere in the Missouri River and they were collected in this habitat restoration project." Milligan says that's important because it shows the pallid sturgeon are reproducing and staying alive on their own. "Our data shows that 65 species are using the chute while 34 species are using similar areas in the river channel." Just down the river a bit from the Lisbon Chute Milligan catches up with his field crew, Jeff, Louise and Bill who have been netting smaller fish.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	12/ 24	10 pm	2:00	With Christmas falling on a Monday this year, people had an entire weekend to finish, or in some cases start, buying holiday gifts. "The mall is filled with people trying to finish some last minute Christmas shopping." "Always those last minute gifts to pick up. Just putting it off, and should have gotten it done earlier. But it wouldn't be the same if you didn't come out the day before Christmas." Many retailers counted on the 11th hour sales surge, but feel that the majority of people got their shopping done earlier this year. "People have just finished early. They're going to be waiting for the big sales afterwards now." "We really expected to be busy this morning and this afternoon, but we really haven't been. So I think everyone has just been really prepared." But, John Brajner thinks there be another reason. " Because of Church. Because its on a Sunday. Saturday is a really big day and everyone is off." In addition, some analysts think that higher fuel prices and a shaky stock market may be taking a toll on consumers this holiday season.

Education	NBC8 News at 6	12/ 26	6 pm	4:00	They learn to sing at the Sing-along class, they learn to create a ceramic piece in the Ceramics class, and they have fun keeping each other company. There's a lot of time that we make our things, we joke around, and talk. There's times we even pick at each other about certain things, but we all have lots of fun doing our work. Naoma Powell is the one who makes this creative way of expression possible. Especially for those who may not have had the chance before. She started the school named Access Arts in 1983, and has contributed her house, half of her social security money, as well as all her time and energy to the school. However, Naoma never regrets these sacrifices.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	12/ 29	6 pm	2:00	Thanks to the generous donations of Mid-Missourians this holiday season, it reached its goal of 220-thousand dollars. Many of us are familiar with some of the services the Salvation Army provides for the community. But the money's used for dozens of projects.
Drug/Alcohol Abuse	NBC8 News at 10	12/ 31	10 pm	2:00	Temperatures in the teens are putting a slight chill on the City's New Year celebrations. Little Dylan Cavanah is one of the brave ones. In full winter attire, he came to downtown Columbia with his family....to say..."bye bye" to the 20th century. With the frigid temperatures, made worse by the wind chills, this year's First Night celebration, is a little different from last year's. "It was warmer. I can't remember how much warmer, but definitely warmer. Many more layers this year." So when one group sang, "As the Saints go Marching In", the revelers listened and marched indoors. This eagle, and these fish were about the only creatures that seemed to enjoy staying out in the wintry weather. But still hundreds of people turned out to ring in the new year...and watch some 70 performances at 12 locations downtown. "It's a nice family way to spend New Year's Eve."