3rd Quarter 2001
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 July 1, 2001 to September 30, 2001. 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.

3rd 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	NBC8 News at 10	7/1	10 pm	2:00	A dispute between Camdenton City and Camden County may change how 9-1-1 calls are handled. The county had set today as the deadline for cutting off services to the city.
Government, Crime	NBC8 News at 6	7/2	6 pm	2:00	Exactly 25 years after the U-S Supreme Court ruled the death penalty can be an appropriate punishment, Missouri decides execution is cruel and unusual...for some people. Governor Holden signs new legislation, making Missouri the 16th state to outlaw the death penalty for mentally retarded people.
Drugs	NBC8 News at 10	7/3	10 pm	2:00	It's getting harder to catch meth makers in Mid-Missouri. That's because they've gone high-tech. The Montgomery County Sheriff's Department is dealing with things we used to only see in spy movies. how they've taken the fight against drugs to a whole new level.
Government	NBC8 News at 6	7/4	6 pm	3:00	Now that Stephens Lake officially belongs to the city of Columbia, you have another place to go to enjoy the outdoors on the 4th of July. We might see changes at the lake in the future. Now you can enjoy the beauty of Stephens Lake...but that wasn't the case about a year ago, when birds were about the only ones allowed on the property without trespassing.

Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 10	7/5	10 pm	2:00	It has 4-wheels and provides food for low-income Missourians. But now, the CAN van needs your help. The food distribution service is running out of supplies.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	7/6	6 pm	3:00	State employees can't strike...but they can unionize...and now, the GOP says it's striking back. One week after the governor says state employees can form unions...the GOP says it wants to block Holden's executive order encouraging collective bargaining. GOP leaders say they're looking into it.
Jobs/Economy Crime Drug/Alcohol Abuse	NBC8 News at 10	7/7	10 pm	2:00	Some restless teens have been stirring up trouble... and a Mid-Missouri city is fed up. Teens loitering in Mexico have caused city officials to close down parking lots. It's been two days since city officials closed down the city's parking lots between 7-P-M and 6-A-M. But the move hasn't stopped the teens from hanging out... some business managers say teens are moving into private parking lots.
Health	NBC8 News at 10	7/8	10 pm	2:00	Mid-Missouri swelters under a dangerous heat wave. The heat sent at least four people to Columbia hospitals... while the rest of us scramble to keep cool. The heat didn't stop softball players at Cosmo Park from turning on the heat. And the players weren't the only ones feeling the heat. A Columbia firefighter who also serves as a paramedic says people just need to remember the basics: drinking lots of fluids, wearing light colored clothing and taking a break from the heat to avoid dehydration.

Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	7/9	6 pm	3:00	There's nothing worse than being stuck in traffic...during the summer's worst heat wave. But, as summer heats up...that's exactly the case for one of Columbia's busiest business areas. Traffic's again backed up during the afternoon rush hour. But, rush hour isn't the only time that this corner is busy, because of construction. It seems like construction is going on all over Columbia....a natural condition in the summer. Of course with construction and progress comes congestion and problems. And near the corner of Nifong and Providence it's proving especially troublesome for nearby businesses and their would-be customers.
Health	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 10	10 pm	2:00	You may think there's no Mid-Missouri connection to shark attacks, like the one in Florida that tore off the arm of a young boy last week. A local doctor's also done re-attachment surgery. Doctor Matt Concannon doesn't work with many animal-related injuries, and certainly not sharks. But, he was curious when he heard about the shark biting off the arm of an eight-year-old boy near Pensacola.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	7/ 11	6 pm	2:00	From a new arena to a new casino. Missouri's casino industry reached its first billion-dollar year, even with a drop in the number of gamblers. Isle of Capri hopes to cash in when it opens a casino in Boonville. But, first the casino needs to hire workers. With a few months left until construction is finished, Isle of Capri casino is really taking shape. Casino officials say it will be done in November, so the company's sending out an S-O-S, that's staff our ship, to Mid-Missouri workers.

Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 12	10 pm	2:00	The University of Missouri loses 27-million dollars from its budget...but breathes a sigh a relief M-U officials say an eight-percent cut's not easy...but they were preparing for even more. Governor Holden announced his decision today.
Health	NBC8 News at 6	7/ 13	6 pm	3:00	Many Mid-Missouri senior-citizens are worried about the cost of prescription drugs. Now, the Governor's new task force may be able to help. This woman's first month at the Jefferson City Residential Care Center became expensive, when a prescription drug she needed wasn't covered by her insurance company. She was lucky because she had enough money and credit available to pay for her medication. But, she worries about her friends who might not be so fortunate.
Health Drug/Alcohol Abuse	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 14	10 pm	2:00	Some teenagers are smoking mad tonight.... but that might be good for their health. A new bill makes it illegal not only for teens to *purchase* tobacco products... but to even *possess* them. The tougher anti-smoking bill to Columbia teens today. All the teenagers say the new law will not stop them from smoking. In fact, if anything, they say they'll *continue* to smoke, regardless of the consequences.
Government	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 15	10 pm	2:00	While basketball fans celebrate M-U's new arena... others are angered by a different bill signed by Governor Holden. Holden's approval of Senate Bill 180 late Friday came without fanfare or headlines. Some think this bill got lost in the shadows. It has to do with weddings, same-sex weddings. Senate Bill number one-eighty states: "It is the public policy of this state to recognize marriage only between a man and a woman..."

Education	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 16	6 pm	2:00	Just over a month until school starts....and one Mid-Missouri district still doesn't have enough teachers. That district is Jefferson City. The school board's meeting tonight to talk about teacher vacancies...and the news is *not* good. Jefferson City needs 17 more teachers even after a long hiring process. The district needed to fill 89 spots, the highest total in four years. The district struggles to fill openings because because their starting salary, $21,000, is one of the lowest in the state.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	7/ 17	6 pm	2:00	Some Jefferson City police officers say they're underpaid, so they want the city council to increase salaries and improve benefits packages. Six officers have left the department in the past couple of months. Salary may be a big factor, but it's not the only reason. "There's been a lot of speculation that low salary is indeed the factor that makes so many people leave. In fact, some people just don't like the 24-hour job schedule."
Education	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 18	10 pm	2:00	At first the MU arena's anonymous donor...believed to be Columbia businessman...Bill Laurie made a big promise. He wanted 11 million of his 25 million dollar donation to go into an account to gain interest for MU scholarships. But... later the donor changed his mind. And NBC 8 found there's confusion about whether part of his donation will go toward academics.This is Mizzou's arena of the future, but just like a basketball the scholarships are up in the air.

Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	7/ 19	6pm	1:00	The federal government is recalling a certain brand of fire sprinklers. The Consumer Product Safety Commission announced the recall today of more than 30 million Central Sprinklers. Lieutenant Steven Sapp of the Columbia Fire Department says that brand is distributed mostly on the East Coast. But, Sapp says, owners of big buildings should call their maintenance companies to have them check those sprinkler systems.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 20	10 pm	1:00	IDAHO AUTHORITIES HAVE CAPTURED A SUSPECT IN THE SHOOTING OF ONE WOMAN AND THE DISAPPEARANCE OF FOUR OTHERS. POLICE ARRESTED MICHAEL BRAAE, ALSO KNOWN AS COWBOY MIKE, AT THE END OF AN HOUR-LONG, HIGH-SPEED CHASE. TROOPERS USED SPIKE STRIPS TO BLOW OUT THE TIRES ON HIS CAR.
Crime	NBC8 News at 6	7/ 21	6pm	1:00	The death of a four-year-old Columbia girl is ruled a homicide. According to autopsy results, Tabitha Tucker died of head injuries Thursday night. Officials began the investigation after being told she had fallen down a flight of stairs. Tucker's 13-year-old cousin was babysitting her at the time. He is charged with second degree involuntary manslaughter and is being held at the Boone County Juvenile Justice Center.

Government	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 22	10 pm	1:00	More problems for Gary Condit...a new Californian poll shows that although his job performance is good, his chances for re-election are not. According to the San Hose Mercury News poll, Congressman Condit received a seventy-seven percent job approval rating. But sixty percent of voters say they will not vote for him in the next election. Voters say their decision is not based on the fact that he had an affair with missing intern Chandra Levy. Instead, voters are upset that it took Condit so long to reveal the relationship.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 23	10 pm	2:00	Jerry Jeffries lay dead this morning, face down in the gravel near Mill Creek Lounge in Brumley. His sister-in-law's son was killed three years ago today...and that murder's still not solved. She wants to make sure the killer's found, *this time.* "Jerry worked hard. He wasn't a rich man, but he was a good man. He loved his family. He loved his son dearly. And people that needed help, Jerry'd be there, and he'd give 100 percent of himself and he didn't ask for anything in return. When somebody wronged him, he didn't get mad. He didn't get upset. He'd say, 'It's all good.'" Anita hopes for justice in Jerry Jeffries' case because his 12-year-old son will want to know what happened.
Crime	NBC8 News at 6	7/ 24	6pm	1:00	Columbia police arrest the final suspect in the First Star Bank robbery.Officers say they found Michael Kelley hiding in the attic at the Columbia Square Apartments early today.Kelley is charged with theft in the July 9th robbery.He's also charged with auto theft. Police say Kelley stole the car used in the robbery.Officers arrested the two other suspects, Chala (SHAH-lah) Incle (INKEL) and Malcolm Redmon, last week.

Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 25	10 pm	1:00	Kansas City-based Payless Cashways will close 39 stores nationwide, but Columbia's store will stay *open.* Four of Missouri's 11 stores will close because of the company's financial problems. And, more than 15-hundred workers nationwide will lose their jobs.Payless has made building and home improvement materials for 70 years.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	7/ 26	6pm	2:00	No new property or sales taxes are planned for Columbia's budget. But, you may still have to pay up. Anyone who shops downtown could have to spend a little more money. The things they buy won't cost more, but parking may. "I think if they want people to shop downtown, they shouldn't raise the prices. I have a friend who owns a store down here, and I know business sometimes gets slow. Lots of people will shop Thursday evenings, because they can park for free." "Instead of paying 25 cents an hour for some downtown meters, you might be paying 50 cents and feeding them until 9 PM."Downtown business owners fear the increase will keep shoppers away.
Health	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 27	10pm	2:00	If your children are *not* vaccinated against chicken pox, they need to be...soon. It was a busy day at the Columbia-Boone County Health Department. Parents took advantage of walk-in opportunities to have their children vaccinated. The new rule requires children under five to be vaccinated against chicken pox in order to attend daycare.More parents understand the dangers of chicken pox, thanks to new advertising. "I know it's a serious disease, but we sort of let the doctor tell us what shots to give."

Drug/Alcohol Abuse	NBC8 News at 6	7/ 28	6 pm	2:00	Detectives find drugs and guns in a home near Columbia. Early this morning, the mid-Missouri Mustang task force made a 20 thousand dollar drug bust. The Boone County Sheriff's Department says the group found crack cocaine about a dozen guns and 22 hundred dollars in cash. Detectives also seized close to twenty-thousand dollars in stolen goods.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 29	10 pm	2:00	One man is in the hospital tonight and another still on the loose after a late night carjacking in Columbia. Police continue to look for a suspect while the victim is in fair condition tonight. Police have found the car that was involved in the crime. They found the '84 Chevy abandoned off I-70 earlier today... and it's a car with some rather distinct features. It was on the side of the interstate near Sweet Springs... just northwest of Sedalia. The four-door car had white over pink paint... gold spoke rims... and a mural on the trunk. Investigators plan examine the car tomorrow.
Crime	NBC8 News at 6	7/ 30	6pm	1:00	Sedalia police have one murder suspect in custody.But, they still believe others are involved in this month's shooting death of a 23-year-old man. Kansas City police arrested Rodney Gene Potts late last week. Sedalia officers say physical evidence led to his arrest. Potts is charged with killing Richard "Tommy" Buckner.Police found Buckner in his car near the intersection of East Saint Louis Street and North Washington Avenue.Potts is in the Pettis County Jail. Police believe the murder's drug-related.

Government	NBC8 News at 10	7/ 31	10 pm	1:00	A ban on cloning human embryos cleared the House easily, with a vote of 2-65 to 1-62. Lawmakers also rejected human cloning for research into possible cures of fatal and disabling diseases. Mid-Missouri congressman Kenny Hulshof voted in favor of the ban. The Senate introduced a similar measure, but has not voted yet. Human cloning is different from stem cell research- which is legal.
Education	NBC8 News at 6	8/1	6pm	1:00	Missouri's A-plus program lets qualified students at designated schools attend two years of technical school or community college for free. Westran High's principal hoped his school would get a grant this fall to help it reach A-plus status.The school district won't get any official word until November.With state budget cuts, funds are about as scarce as students during the summer time.But Westran school officials are trying to move forward.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	8/2	10 pm	1:00	Columbia police are looking for another bank robber tonight.They say a man with a gun held up the Bank of America on West Broadway about three this afternoon.There were several customers, including children, in the bank at the time.But, no one was hurt. Police say the robber took an unknown amount of money, then ran away.

Crime	NBC8 News at 6	8/3	6pm	1:00	Two inmates who escaped from the Boone County Jail this afternoon are back behind bars. Gerald Haley, and Charles Byrd hid for more than an hour. Deputies say the inmates scaled the jail's 16 foot wall around the recreation yard. They then stole bicycles and rode to this North Columbia neighborhood. tipped off police after seeing a man in a jail uniform in their backyard.
Health	NBC8 News at 10	8/4	10 pm	2:00	A Philadelphia woman has filed suit against a Philadelphia hospital, over what could be a *serious mistake.* 48 YEAR OLD MARLENE BRANCA IS LUCKY TO BE ALIVE . WHEN THE IV-NEEDLE WAS REMOVED AFTER HER ROUTINE KIDNEY DIALYSIS TREATMENT...SHE ALMOST BLED TO DEATH. "it was going down my arm, down my blouse. □PHILADELPHIA HEALTH OFFICIALS ARE INVESTIGATING WHETHER SHE AND 931 OTHER ELDERLY PATIENTS AT ST. AGNES MEDICAL CENTER WERE GIVEN OVERDOSES OF THE POWERFUL BLOOD THINNER. COUMADIN.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	8/5	10 pm	2:00	Police are using polygraphs to solve a lake area death. It's been two weeks since that crime... and investigators have made no arrests. Something bad happened in a good town. "It hasn't just affected one family." But this mysterious crime has happened before in Brumley. "This time, there is no doubt that this, point-blank, was murder."Jerry Jeffries' body was found two weeks ago. A gun shot killed him in the parking lot of the local bar.

Crime	NBC8 News at 6	8/6	6pm	2:00	The parents of a 12-year-old Columbia murder victim say they finally have closure, after the sentencing of their daughter's killer.David Dewey entered the courtroom, smiling at friends and family. It was a far cry from the motionless Dewey who later stood before Judge Frank Conley to hear his sentence. jury convicted Dewey in June of second-degree murder in the killing of Sheena McDonald. McDonald's parents took the stand today for the first time since testifying during his trial. "I hope that David gets all that the jury recommended without parole. He took away Sheena's life."
Government	NBC8 News at 10	8/7	10 pm	1:00	In the state representative race for the 7th District, including Linn, Carroll and Livingston Counties.House Democrats now hold an 87 to 75 advantage over Republicans, after today's three special elections.But, there's still one vacancy in the Missouri House, because of the recent death of one representative.
Education	NBC8 News at 6	8/8	6pm	2:00	Only a few weeks 'til school starts, but still not enough teachers. Mid-Missouri schools are starting to hire teachers...to-be. Agnes Hatcher is enjoying her last few weeks of summer, before she heads off to her first year of teaching. "I'm not nervous, but more excited to think I can incorportate some of my ideas." She just took a last-minute job in North Callway's school district. And, it still has openings. "This year is a whole lot different. The stack of applicants is a whole lot smaller than it has been in the past."

Education	NBC8 News at 10	8/9	10 pm	1:00	Stores are stocking their shelves with back-to-school supplies, hoping for a banner season. But, it looks like shoppers won't open their wallets quite as wide as last year. An American Express survey shows parents plan to spend 426 dollars on clothes and school supplies for each child.Teens will spend an average of 101 dollars. But, the total of 527 dollars is down 21 bucks from last year.Teens, but not their parents, plan to reduce spending. The survey shows more teen shoppers describe themselves as bargain hunters.
Government	NBC8 News at 6	8/ 10	6pm	2:00	As teachers prepare for the new school year, Missouri Governor Bob Holden takes domestic violence to task."I'm going to give you something to scream about!"(Crying) "Get over here!" "I've often spoken of domestic violence as a secret sickness of our society." It's a vicious cycle that destroys families.That's why Holden increased funding for state domestic violence programs...from 2-point-8 to just more than 4 million dollars. And it's not just dollar bills he's committed to the fight...
Health	NBC8 News at 6	8/ 11	6pm	2:00	THE PRESIDENT SPENT THE DAY AFTER HIS SPEECH OUT OF SIGHT ON THIS RANCH...AIDES DESCRIBING A SENSE OF RELIEF IN MR. BUSH... WHO LINGERED IN THE RANCH HOUSE AFTER THE ADDRESS TO THANK TOP STAFF MEMBERS WHO HAD GATHERED TO WATCH HIM. MEANWHILE .. HIS TOP ADVISER .. DETERMINED TO DEBUNK THE NOTION THAT BUSH IS NOT ENGAGED IN COMPLEX POLICY ISSUES... BUT TODAY IT BECAME CLEAR THAT WASN'T ENOUGH FOR THE ADVOCATES ON BOTH SIDES WHO WANTED MORE THAN BUSH'S SPLIT DECISION. EVEN REACTION TODAY FROM FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL JANET RENO WHO HAS PARKINSON'S DISEASE. SHE VOICED CONCERNS ABOUT BUSH'S DECISION TO RESTRICT THE RESEARCH TO THE 60 EXISTING STEM CELL LINES.

Crime	NBC8 News at 10	8/ 12	10 pm	1:00	The country's state prison population declined for the first time in thirty years. A report from the U-S Justice Department showed a drop of 62-hundred state prison inmates...a first since 19-72.Last year, state and federal populations rose by about 18-thousand. This is the smallest annual increase in twenty years.Despite these small numbers, prisons are still housing more inmates than they were designed to hold. State facilities are 15-percent above capacity while federal prisons are 31-percent over.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	8/ 13	10 pm	1:00	A former M-U bookkeeper in Warrenton is charged with forgery. Authorities say Glenda Tesone admits taking 32-thousand dollars from the Extension office there. They say-- she spent some of the money at gambling casinos.Tesone is due in Warren County Court August 27th.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	8/ 14	6pm	2:00	The HyVee parking lot was full as people stopped to shop at the new store in town. Once they got inside...They spent a good deal of time in the check-out line.But some didn't seem to mind. "I've been waiting for the store to open up for months. I'm originally from DesMoines and we have hundreds of them up there. It's a great store."

Health	NBC8 News at 6	8/ 15	6pm	1:00	Students who fear those annual immunizations can delay that pain a little longer.A national shortage of the tetanus vaccine has caused Missouri schools to waive the booster shot requirement for 16-year-olds.But, they will have to get the shot in January.That's when the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say the vaccine supply will increase.Health officials say there's enough vaccine now, for emergencies and high-risk groups.
Health	NBC8 News at 10	8/ 16	10 pm	2:00	Robert Courtney is the Kansas City pharmacist accused of diluting cancer medication.Missouri tries to keep track of pharmacists, but failed in his case. They measure your medications, then send you on your way. Missouri licenses 63-hundred pharmacists...a number the state finds hard to investigate. "In this case, you have to routinely take samples of every compound in pharmacies. And that is, of course, an expensive and arduous task." But, very rarely does the board find pharmacists guilty of tampering with medication.One Columbia pharmacist says that sort of thing just shouldn't happen."Chemotherapy, we're talking somebody who's already in a heck of a predicament, and you're taking away one of their few chances for a cure." The Missouri Board of Pharmacy made 14-hundred inspections last year. It disciplined dozens of pharmacists...and even put some of them on probation. But, with only one investigater per thousand pharmacists, problems can be hard to catch.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	8/ 17	6pm	2:00	In the last few years, Toastmaster has been moving more work out of the country. Now it's Boonville plant might close.The 40 employees there are very concerned about news the distribution plant may close.And they're also disturbed about a memo they received earlier this week.It highlights the benefits they'll be eligible for when the company closes. Monday they got a memo saying the company wouldn't provide severence for hourly employees.Full time workers will be eligible for a lump sum retention bonus.

Education	NBC8 News at 10	8/ 19	10 pm	3:00	Back to school pressures may be causing some Mid-Missouri students to cheat. Over the next few weeks, many high school and college students will begin using the Internet for school again. But, how will they be using it?Many of us computers have become a part of our daily life-style. We use them to check and send e-mails, catch up on the latest scores, and for many students they're an important research tool. But is this tool being used for the wrong reason?
Health	NBC8 News at 6	8/ 21	6pm	2:00	Mid-Missouri seniors say they're breaking the bank to pay for their pills. And now they want Governor Holden to change that. Governor Holden joined some Missouri senior citizens for lunch today to discuss prescription drug costs. Dorothy's husband, Al, died in June. Before that, she and her family had to handle huge bills for both of their prescriptions.She says medical insurance helped but they didn't receive much aid from the government.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	8/ 21	10 pm	2:00	A ten thousand dollar reward was issued for the man police say killed six members of his family in California, including his pregnant wife and three-year-old son.Police think Nikolay Soltys is on the run. THESE ARE THE YOUNGEST VICTIMS OF MONDAY'S CRIME SPREE IN A SACRAMENTO SUBURB....TEN YEAR OLD DMITRI AND NINE YEAR OLD TANYA, WERE STABBED TO DEATH, ALLEGEDLY BY THIS MAN, THEIR COUSIN, 27 YEAR OLD NIKOLAY SOLTYS.

Crime	NBC8 News at 6	8/ 22	6pm	1:00	More criminal charges for two Marine instructors at Missouri's Fort Leonard Wood. Officials charged six instructors with sexual harrassment and sexual misconduct in April. Now, Marine prosecutors have also charged two of them with rape.They are former Staff Sergeant Howard Ross of Baltimore, Maryland, and Staff Sergeant Bernard Smith of Charleston, South Carolina They were part of the company where new Marines learn to drive military trucks and other vehicles.
Education	NBC8 News at 10	8/ 23	10 pm	1:00	Three Mid-Missouri teachers are among the six finalists for the state's teacher of the year award.They are Jill Bergee of Columbia, Barbara Kuebler of Jefferson City, and Debbie Lacy of Eldon. The selection committee will pick the winner on September 6th. Missouri's teacher of the year goes to the national contest.
Crime	NBC8 News at 6	8/ 24	6pm	1:00	Time has run out for a suspect known as the countdown bandit. Richard Banister tried to rob another bank in Arkansas but was wrestled to the ground by an off-duty policeman.Banister robbed at least twenty Midwest banks in the past few years. These included Columbia's Bank of America on Broadway on August 2nd.The arresting officer made his move after discovering Banister's weapon was a B-B gun.

Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	8/ 25	10 pm	1:00	Mid-Missourians are spending more money on gas, as the prices soar once again.In Columbia, prices were one-fifty-nine per gallon this morning. By this afternoon, prices rose ten cents a gallon to one-sixty-nine.Automobile Association Triple-A says lower refinery capacity in various places could be contributing to the higher fuel prices.
Crime	NBC8 News at 6	8/ 27	6pm	1:00	Was it homicide? Or murder-suicide? Springfield police investigate the deaths of a woman and her two children. Their father called the police, when his estranged wife didn't return the children to his Jefferson City home as planned.Springfield police say they found the three bodies in 39-year-old Judith Baldwin's family room around midnight. All had gunshots to the head. A handgun was lying next to the woman's body.Thirteen-year-old Keith Baldwin and his 11-year-old sister Jaqueline had just returned to classes last Wednesday at St. Joseph Cathedral School in Jefferson City.And already, memories are all that's left for their classmates and teachers.
Government	NBC8 News at 6	8/ 28	6pm	1:00	Lawmakers banned execution of mentally-retarded killers. But, the new law does not affect inmates already on Death Row.Another law fines drivers 250 dollars if they speed or pass in a construction zone when workers are there.Missouri banned same-sex marriages, and won't recognize them from other states. And, Jake's Law says police must check for outstanding warrants before releasing inmates. It's named for six-year-old Jake Robel, who was killed in a car-jacking. The defendant in that case was released from jail that day, because officers didn't know he was wanted on another charge.

Crime	NBC8 News at 10	8/ 29	10 pm	1:00	Two bank robberies in Mid-Missouri today. A man robbed the Commerce Bank on Conley Road in Columbia. He's a white man, about five-foot-six, 160 pounds, short black hair, a beard and mustache. He wore a black baseball cap, a short-sleeved white shirt, and metal-rimmed glasses. And, a man with a gun held up a Tipton bank, locked tellers in the vault, and escaped in a bank-employee's car.He's a white man, about six-foot-one, 250 pounds, with a beard.
Government	NBC8 News at 6	8/ 30	6pm	1:00	Those budget cuts have lawmakers thinking and talking.And, they're quick to point out what they think is to blame for the cuts. And, they split along political party lines.It probably would be a good for us to sit down and take a look at just what happened. And it happened little by little, and just what happened is that we're in this big crackdown now." Rohrbach says unrestricted growth in state programs over the last few years is partly to blame for the budget cuts.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	8/ 31	10 pm	2:00	Iowa authorities have caught the man they say killed seven people. Police say the man has a long-criminal record and was just released from prison. SEVEN RESIDENTS FOUND BRUTALLY MURDERED THURSDAY EVENING IN SIOUX CITY, IOWA LEAVING A SMALL TOWN IN SHOCK. "All I can tell you is that it was a very brutal murder, a very brutal murder." AMONG THE VICTIMS, A MOTHER AND HER FIVE CHILDREN FOUND BY A BABY SITTER. POLICE SAID THE BODIES WERE DISCOVERED DAYS AFTER THE CRIME.

Crime	NBC8 News at 6	9/1	6pm	1:00	The Columbia Police Department released photos from a surveillance tape in last week's Mega Market robbery.The suspect is described as a white male, five-feet, eight inches tall. said he weighs about 160 pounds and has dark hair and a goatee.He robbed the Commerce bank inside Mega Market near Broadway and Highway 63.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 10	9/2	10 pm	1:00	Last month, the F-B-I arrested eight people in connection with the McDonald's Monopoly game givaway, who scammed the public and kept the prizes for themselves. McDonald's hopes to make its customers smile again by giving away ten million dollars over the Labor Day weekend. One lucky guy got his million in Daytona Beach yesterday. He walked into McDonald's for breakfast and became an instant winner. The fast food chain is hoping to make up for the Monopoly game rip off.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	9/3	6pm	1:00	President Bush spent his Labor Day speaking with union members in Wisconsin.Bush says he used the holiday as a forum to sympathize with workers hurt by the sluggish economy. The president promised all working Americans he will do what he can to revive the nation's economy.

Government	NBC8 News at 10	9/4	10 pm	1:00	Columbia Representative Chuck Graham plans to run for a top Democratic leadership-post in 2003. Graham says he'll run for Missouri's House Majority Leader . Wayne Crump holds the job now, but his term expires at the end of next year's session. Graham says it's common for majority leader candidates to announce their plans early.
Education	NBC8 News at 6	9/5	6pm	1:00	Science scores on the latest statewide tests show seventh graders in Columbia are scoring below proficiency.Students took the proficiency tests last spring, and the scores came in this week.The scores are divided into five levels of proficiency.Level five's the highest and level one's the lowest, and about 55 percent of seventh graders scored in the two lowest levels.Seventh grade science teacher Catherine Carpenter says Lange Middle School's working to improve students' scores.
Government	NBC8 News at 10	9/6	10 pm	1:00	It's day two of Missouri's special legislative session at the state Capitol. Senators were surprised today by new estimates for the price of a prescription drug plan endorsed Governor Holden. Lawmakers thought the state would spend 50- to 90-million dollars to provide low-income senior citizens up to 500 dollars for prescription drugs. But, an economics professor told a committee today the state could spend more than 150-million dollars...about 60-million dollars more than lawmakers expected.

Government	NBC8 News at 6	9/7	6pm	1:00	Prescription Drugs for senior citizens takes center stage today in the state senate. Most lawmakers agree they want to get a prescription drug plan passed by the end of this special session.Yesterday it looked like the Senate had reached a compromise.But today arguments over wording of the bill and amendments stalled any progress.
Government	NBC8 News at 10	9/8	10 pm	1:00	The Missouri Senate passed a bill to help seniors pay for prescription drugs last night. But they say the cost is too high.Senators are hoping the bill's cost will be reduced when it hits the House next week. The bill costs more than the plan lawmakers are hoping to replace.If the new bill is passed, the state would pay 60 percent of senior's prescription drug costs...after an enrollment fee and deductible.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 10	9/9	10 pm	1:00	The nation's largest local phone company is raising the cost of pay phone calls.Verizon says *now* callers will need to drop in 50 cents, instead of 35 cents. The company operates many of the pay phones in Mid-Missouri. Verizon says it's not making as much money from its pay phones as it used to because of increased cellular phone and calling card use.

Education	NBC8 News at 6	9/ 10	6pm	2:00	Kindergarten kids have a bit more elbow room in Columbia schools this fall...But that doesn't mean the district's crowding is easing up... That's right....kindergarten enrollment is down about 150 kids this fall...but consider that a statistical blip....Take Fairview Elementary, for instance....Kids there and at most Columbia elementary schools won't all fit in the school cafeteria at one time.
Education	NBC8 News at 6	9/ 11	6pm	2:00	Fulton High School students didn't know they'd learn the biggest history lesson of their life at school today.A big screen T-V brought the news to Fulton students as they ate their lunch."The Spanish teacher came over and told us to turn on the T-V and watch what was going on." A few students ate, some watched, many worried.
Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 10	9/ 12	10 pm	2:00	Open. Well, the Post Office is open...but its service is *not* in full swing. And, as parcels pile up, people's emotions build up about the service. "In America, we are used to freedoms that we take for granted everyday we don't think twice about. Mail be one of the least we think about. But, when it comes down to it, it is a freedom we take for granted." Tracy Hayes agrees and says uncertain delivery makes his job hunt even harder. "It's kind of frustrating. Whereas before, you could tell it's going to take two days for them to get it. Now, you got to wait a week or anything, before you try to resubmit a cover letter.""Here's the bottom line: If you want to send a package to California by tomorrow, you can't. That's because the only way for mail to travel now, is by ground."

Education	NBC8 News at 10	9/ 13	10 pm	2:00	Students at Parkade Elementary learn about respect and caring... Lessons that seem especially important during this dark time in our nation's history.Guidance counselor Sky Jimenez says it's also important for children to *do* something. So, Parkade's collecting money to help survivors of Tuesday's attack."It's very hard for children to feel that they have some power or some power to do something that helps. So, this way, they have something concrete that they can do." They call it the Nickels for New York campaign.
Government	NBC8 News at 6	9/ 14	6pm	2:00	Lawmakers at the capitol also accomplished what's been on their to-do list for months .Prescription drugs for seniors and the disabled. Some Senators say that cost is too high for our budget to handle.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	9/ 15	6pm	1:00	With America focused on recent terrorist attacks, one mid-Missouri business says it's having a little trouble attracting applicants. Boonville's Isle of Capri Casino is seeing a low turnout at today's search for dealers.Isle of Capri says dealers need special training, so the casino wants to get people into their classes as soon as possible. The casino company has been planning the job fair for weeks. Isle of Capri expected about 50 applicants at today's event.

Consumer Issues	NBC8 News at 6	9/ 17	6pm	1:00	State Auditor Claire McCaskill says more than half of state agencies mis-manage their cell phone accounts.She says it's led to delinquent accounts, lost phones and failure to track personal calls made on state phones.The audit focused on the departments of Conservation, Mental Health, Public Safety, Social Services and Transportation.The Office of Administration, which oversees state billing, says it will review statewide policies.
Crime	NBC8 News at 10	9/ 18	10 pm	1:00	Pettis County authorities release a man they charged with murder two months ago.The county prosecutor ordered the release of Rodney Potts today. Potts was accused of shooting Tommy Buckner last July. Now, police have arrested two Sedalia men, 18-year-old Lloyd Stoner and 22-year-old Kinya Kerr.Police say Kerr told them Potts killed Buckner.But, police say, Kerr lied. Kerr and Stoner are charged with first-degree murder.Their bond is one-million dollars each.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	9/ 19	10 pm	1:00	Stocks dropped again today, still feeling the aftershocks of the attacks in New York and Washington.The Dow was down another 144 points. Many investors are still worried about how terrorist attacks are affecting the slumping U-S economy.They say there's also uncertainty about jobs, and the threat of more attacks.

Crime	NBC8 News at 6	9/ 20	6pm	1:00	A Sedalia man is facing a first-degree murder charge.Michael Paul Byrd, Jr. is one of three men arrested for the July murder of Richard Buckner. He and the other men are also charged with armed criminal action. Sedalia police are still investigating the homicide. Byrd is being held on one million dollars bond.
Government	NBC8 News at 10	9/ 21	10 pm	1:00	Federal authorities are warning of other possible U-S targets for terrorism tomorrow. Those potential targets include the city of Boston, water treatment plants, and major motion picture studios. Attorney General John Ashcroft warned Hollywood studios yesterday that an intelligence report shows terrorists were considering an attack there.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	9/ 22	6pm	1:00	Others in Ashland are celebrating a new bank. Main Street Bank opened today amidst Fall Fest activities.The owners and employees cut the ribbon.Though the economic forecast is unclear, owners expect the bank to succeed.

Education	NBC8 News at 10	9/ 23	10 pm	2:00	DOZENS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARE LEAVING THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI.... PACKING THEIR THINGS... AND HEADING HOME. FORTY-FOUR STUDENTS HAVE WITHDRAWN FROM CLASSES AT M-U SINCE THE ATTACK ON AMERICA. IT SEEMS THAT THOSE THAT ARE STILL HERE PLAN TO STAY.IN FACT, EVERY STUDENT I SPOKE WITH TODAY FEELS SAFE...AND NEVER THOUGHT OF LEAVING. BUT THAT WASN'T THE CASE FOR THE 44 MU STUDENTS WHO LEFT. AND SOME SAY IT WAS NOT BECAUSE 'THEY' FELT UNSAFE, BUT BECAUSE THEIR FAMILIES WEREN'T COMFORTABLE.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 6	9/ 24	6pm	1:00	The 15 billion dollars that Congress approved last week to help the airline industry is just the first installment. Lawmakers return to the Capitol this week to take up additional legislation that will address security issues as well as compensation for workers who've lost their jobs. Missouri Senator Jean Carnahan introduced a three and three-quarter billion dollar package for health insurance, unemployment benefits and training for airline workers who have lost their jobs. Similar measures also are likely in the House.
Government	NBC8 News at 10	9/ 25	10 pm	1:00	THE U-S ATTORNEY GENERAL SAYS TERRORISM IS A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER TO AMERICANS. JOHN ASHCROFT WAS ON CAPITOL HILL AGAIN TODAY, URGING CONGRESS TO PASS TOUGHER ANTI-TERRORIST LAWS. HE WANTS MORE WIRETAPPING AUTHORITY, AND A STRONGER IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE, TO LIMIT TERRORIST MOVES.

Government	NBC8 News at 6	9/ 26	6pm	1:00	The Senate has endorsed 60 million dollars for construction at Missouri military institutions. The money is part of the defense spending legislation moving through Congress. The House passed similar provisions last week. The proposal gives Fort Leonard Wood, 35 million dollars to build a basic combat training complex and firing ranges.Whiteman Air Force Base would get 18 million dollars to replace termite-infested family housing.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	9/ 27	10 pm	1:00	Missouri officials expect unemployment to rise because of the September 11th terrorist attacks. But, the state's jobless rate fell one-tenth of a point last month to 4-point-2 percent.Columbia and Boone County still have Missouri's lowest jobless rate, at 1-point-8 percent. Officials say, potential layoffs in the airline industry may increase the state's rate.
Jobs/Economy	NBC8 News at 10	9/ 28	10 pm	1 :00	Lots of football fans in Columbia don't have rooms at the Regency Premier Hotel tonight, even though they paid for the rooms. That's because the hotel-owner is accused of not paying bills. The doors are closed, the parking lot is empty.The hotel is also closed because of possible problems with plumbing, wiring and smoke detectors.The Best Western and other hotels are helping stranded guests. Those hotels have space because of last-minute cancellations.The Convention and Visitors Bureau says the closing affects more than just this weekend.

Government	NBC8 News at 10	9/ 29	10 pm	3:00	Right now if you're caught driving with a blood alcohol level more than point-zero-eight, you're breaking the law. It's the weekend, and for many that means having a good time...And if having a good time for you includes driving after you drink, the words point-oh-eight have a whole new meaning. Like most people when they go out drink don't think about how much drinks they're going to have until they can't drive anymore. they'll drink as many as they want to drink" Well they can still drink as much alcohol as they want, but since twelve-oh-one this morning the state's new drunk driving law has been in affect, lowering the legal blood-alcohol limit for driving to point-oh-8. The Missouri Highway Patrol says it's an attempt to save lives.
Government	NBC8 News at 10	9/ 30	10 pm	1:00	The U-S Supreme Court is facing a heavy work-load this term. Justices will rule on numerous business-related matters, including identity theft, health insurance and job discrimination. Court rulings will have various affects on the public...from the cost of high speed internet access to competition among electricity companies and local phone service providers. Last term, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of businesses in 17 of 32 cases.