# 1st Quarter 2004
# 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 January 1st , 2004 to March 31st, 2004. 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.

1st 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 |
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| Jobs/Economy | KOMU News at 6 | 1/5 | 6 p.m. | 1:00 | One year ago, Missouri's job situation appeared to be one of Governor Holden's biggest problems. Now, Holden may count it as one of his strengths. The Missouri Chamber of Commerce says the state lost more jobs in 20-02 than any other state in the country. But since January 20-03 Missouri gained 18-thousand jobs while national employment continued to suffer. Holden says this means the state can take better advantage when the national economy eventually turns around. |
| Health | KOMU News at 10 | 1/6 | 10 p.m. | 1:15 | The topic of this month's "Doc On Call" is Childhood Obesity. There's a *growing* concern that our kids are getting bigger. KOMU's Alyea Azeez talked to one pediatrician who has some tips for parents to keep their kids healthy. |
| Government | KOMU News at 6 | 1/8 | 6 p.m. | 1:30 | With a clean bill of health Mayor Hindman says "yes" to a re-election bid. Hindman announced today that he will |

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| | | | | | run for another term as Columbia's mayor. He says his top priority is the city's growth. And his experience will help him handle the tough issue. |
| Health | KOMU News at 6 | 1/11 | 6 p.m. | :21 | A hard hit early in the flu season, made trips to the pharmacy frequent. Now, drug stores are starting to see fewer flu sufferers. But one Jefferson City pharmacist says it's not time to put the cold medicine and Kleenexes away just yet. |
| Consumer | KOMU News at 10 | 1/15 | 10 p.m. | 1:30 | eBay. You just mention the name and big savings comes to mind. Right? But, what if big savings, actually turn into a big rip off? In tonight's Consumer Alert, Target 8's Matthew Simon tells how a mid-Missouri woman learned this the hard way. |
| Crime | KOMU News at 10 | 1/19 | 10 p.m. | 1:15 | Here's how the scam works...Gilley took the Plumbing from underneath Macker's house, and brought it inside to show her. She said she felt helpless because she needed running water as soon as possible, so she wrote him a check for $425 dollars. That's when she says Gilley ran straight to the bank with her check, leaving a hole in her bank account and her plumbing. |
| Consumer | KOMU News at 10 | 1/21 | 10 p.m. | :20 | The Missouri Department of Insurance has dubbed this week "Get Smart About Insurance" week. The goal is to educate consumers about things to look for, and beware of, when shopping for insurance. The department says consumers should shop around for identical products and services. And, people should schedule a routine "check-up" with their insurance agent once a year. |
| Government | KOMU News at 6 | 1/24 | 6 p.m. | :18 | Democratic presidential candidate john Edwards will compete in Missouri's February third primary. |

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| | | | | | Edwards' campaign has hired two of Missouri congressman Dick Gephardt's senior advisers.<br>Gephardt dropped out of the race for the democratic presidential nomination after a disappointing showing in Iowa.<br>A spokeswoman for Edwards says they haven't decided yet whether Edwards will visit Missouri. |
| Crime | KOMU News at 10 | 1/25 | 10 p.m. | 1:24 | Keeping our kids safe is a click away in some Missouri counties... But some Jefferson City leaders want everyone easy access to the state's registered sex offenders list. |
| Education | KOMU News at 10 | 1/26 | 10 p.m. | 1:35 | More than a billion extra dollars could be available for education.<br>That's one proposal lawmakers heard today.<br>Lawmakers looked at two different proposals today. |
| Education | KOMU News at 10 | 1/27 | 10 p.m. | :52 | Budget cuts and tight money is the norm at M-U lately.<br>But a large chunk of change is heading to the college of education.<br>Two alums, Howard and Joanne hook donated two million dollars today |
| Health | KOMU News at 6 | 1/28 | 6 p.m. | 1:17 | 2 years from now, children may have to pass a new requirement to get into this or any other kindergarten class.<br>The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services wants all children to get a chickenpox vaccine before entering kindergarten.<br>Though 70 percent of all two-year-olds are already vaccinated, there are still many children in school who could get the infection.<br>And chickenpox is extremely contagious. |

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| Drugs/Alcohol Abuse | KOMU News at 6 | 1/29 | 6 p.m. | :16 | Missouri attorney general wants the legislature to step up in the fight against meth-labs.<br>Nixon wants a state wide grand jury to work with the 26 regional drug task forces.<br>Nixon also wants to dedicate an existing prison solely to meth offenders.<br>He did not name a site. |
| Government | KOMU News at 6 | 1/30 | 6 p.m. | 2:03 | With Richard Gephardt out of the way, democratic presidential hopefuls are courting Missouri.<br>we haven't seen the candidates themselves, but lots of people are speaking for them.<br>KOMU's Kimberly Adams shows how the campaigns are trying to reach Mid-Missouri voters. |
| Jobs/Economy | KOMU News at 10 | 1/31 | 10 p.m. | :24 | President Bush is calling for tax relief.<br>the president made the comments while speaking to congressional republicans in Philadelphia.<br>Bush says temporary tax cuts need to become permanent.<br>He claims this will help keep the economy growing.<br>Bush also says the cuts will create jobs. |
| Health and Education | KOMU News at 10 | 2/1 | 10 p.m. | 1:58 | Timbo Loftus was born with cerebral palsy and primary immune deficiency disorder.<br>He can only speak a few words.<br>But his family found a daycare where he receives special services like speech and physical therapy.<br>"right now he needs some special help. And the daycare are angels in disguise, they are wonderful. We couldn't ask for anything better."<br>But Timbo's daycare is not in the district where his |

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| | | | | | family lives - and this is a big problem... |
| Drugs/Alcohol Abuse | KOMU News at 5 | 2/2 | 5 p.m. | 2:03 | The Cole County prosecutor has appointed a new committee to deal with the problem of underage drinking.<br>KOMU's Matt Flener is here to tell us about that.<br>Matt...I understand the Cole County prosecutor is looking to the community to help him do his job?<br>Cole County prosecutor Bill Tackett's talked to one too many families about underage drinking. |
| Government | KOMU News at 6 | 2/3 | 6 p.m. | 1:30 | The presidential primary race comes to Missouri.....but does anyone care?<br>Missouri has more delegates up for grabs today than any other state.<br>But by the voter turnout, it's hard to tell. |
| Jobs/Economy | KOMU News at 6 | 2/4 | 6 p.m. | 6:00 (Combined Coverage) | State Farm won't be leaving Columbia anytime soon, saving hundreds of jobs...<br>Executives say they'll keep the Columbia location open, along with a branch in Tulsa, Oklahoma.<br>But they will close the Monroe, Louisiana office...<br>We have live team coverage of the state farm announcement to stay in Columbia - creating hundreds of new jobs... |
| Consumer | KOMU News at 10 | 2/5 | 10 p.m. | 1:38 | Whether it's movies, or drive thru ice cream, Mid-Missourians find ways to enjoy their snow days. |
| Crime | KOMU News at 5 | 2/6 | 5 p.m. | :45 | The new Columbia crime report brings good news.<br>all crime stats are *down*. |
| Health | KOMU News at 6 | 2/7 | 6 p.m. | 1:32 | Today's event was part of the national "give kids a smile" program - where dentists across the country help children and families who need - but can't afford - dental care. |
| Education | KOMU News | 2/8 | 10 | 1:48 | Making the transition from high school to college |

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| | at 10 | | p.m. | | means filling out stacks of paperwork.<br>Today, financial aid experts invited local high school students to a workshop to make sure one very important form isn't overlooked. |
| Education | KOMU News at 10 | 2/9 | 10 p.m. | 1:25 | Tonight, the Columbia board of education talked (is talking?) about some controversial issues in next year's school budget.<br>If a decision is made tonight, some teachers will get a raise...<br>But others might lose their paychecks altogether. |
| Drugs/Alcohol Abuse | KOMU News at 10 | 2/10 | 10 p.m. | 1:53 | When you go out you may worry about what you're wearing or how your hair looks.<br>But Columbia police say you should worry about what could be dropped in your drink.<br>KOMU's Scott Schaefer tells us why education about date rape could be a key factor in helping to stop this problem. |
| Health | KOMU News at 10 | 2/11 | 10 p.m. | 1:48 | Children get shots -- vaccinations -- for a whole bunch of awful illnesses -- like polio, hepatitis B and tuberculosis.<br>But there may be something awful in those vaccines...mercury. |
| Education | KOMU News at 6 | 2/12 | 6 p.m. | 2:02 | Should school districts be able to recruit 'high-demand' teachers by offering more money?<br>Some Missouri lawmakers think so. |
| Health | KOMU News at 6 | 2/13 | 6 p.m. | 1:00 | Children learned valuable safety tips firsthand today at Columbia Catholic school.<br>The health and safety fair had twenty-two events. |
| Government | KOMU News at 10 | 2/14 | 10 p.m. | :32 | The race for the democratic presidential candidacy saw a surprise result for one candidate, and |

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| | | | | | an almost expected win for another.<br>In today's caucus in Washington D-C,<br>Senator John Kerry won yet again, with forty-seven percent. |
| Jobs/Economy | KOMU News at 10 | 2/15 | 10 p.m. | 1:25 | Well, Nelson, after three decades of business, K-Mart **did** shut its doors around 4 this afternoon...<br>The store marked down its merchandise to over 90 percent off today, which attracted lots of customers...<br>But a few, loyal shoppers will miss the store the most. |
| Education | KOMU News at 10 | 2/16 | 10 p.m. | 2:26 | Hundreds of ralliers made the trip to the capitol steps today to support public education, but how much of their message reached lawmakers inside? |
| Health | KOMU News at 10 | 2/17 | 10 p.m. | 1:29 | Families could have a *new* option for family planning.<br>That's because MU researchers stumbled on a new birth control method.<br>KOMU's Brock Spencer tells us about the non-hormonal research. |
| Government | KOMU News at 6 | 2/18 | 6 p.m. | 1:14 | John Ashcroft was back in Missouri today.<br>Ashcroft was in Jefferson City to address the Missouri chamber of commerce and industry. |
| Health | KOMU News at 10 | 2/19 | 10 p.m. | 1:37 | Almost 50- thousand Missourians could lose their health insurance.<br>Medicaid patients could be looking for different health care if house republicans have their way. |
| Education | KOMU News at 10 | 2/20 | 10 p.m. | :37 | Missouri pre-schools fared poorly in a nationwide study.<br>The national institute for early education research ranked Missouri 30th for funding preschool programs for |

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| | | | | | 4-year-olds. |
| Health | KOMU News at 10 | 2/21 | 10 p.m. | 1:34 | The former Nowell's grocery store on Worley street will soon be home to the new Columbia-Boone county health department. |
| Crime | KOMU News at 10 | 2/22 | 10 p.m. | 1:40 | Welcome to Columbia Missouri. Population 89,000 ranking: top ten.<br>Columbia is ranked one of the top ten cities to live in the US.<br>And at least one resident agrees.<br>"As far as living here, I think it's wonderful."<br>Why was Columbia in the top ten? Reason number one: it has a low crime rate.<br>That's important to Topp because of his kids. |
| Government | KOMU News at 10 | 2/23 | 10 p.m. | 1:28 | The citizens supporting Claire McCaskill's run for governor say they'll try to do just that.<br>Their method...convince the governor not to run for re-election. |
| Government | KOMU News at 10 | 2/24 | 10 p.m. | :43 | State auditor Claire McCaskill, Governor Bob Holden and Secretary of State Matt Blunt all filed to run for governor today.<br>McCaskill and more than 350 other candidates waited several hours to file their paperwork. |
| Education | KOMU News at 10 | 2/25 | 10 p.m. | :36 | Also at the capitol, some University of Missouri students tried to stop state lawmakers from bleeding the university budget. |
| Jobs/Economy | KOMU News at 10 | 2/26 | 10 p.m. | :53 | Holden signed an executive order in 20-01 to allow unions to collect fees from state employees who do not belong to unions.<br>Earlier this month, lawmakers passed a bill to block this move. |

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| | | | | | The governor vetoed that bill. |
| Education | KOMU News at 6 | 2/27 | 6 p.m. | :42 | A recent survey by the association of American universities reveals that there are fewer international students applying for graduate studies at American colleges.<br>But at the University of Missouri, the situation is the opposite. |
| Health | KOMU News at 10 | 2/28 | 10 p.m. | 1:30 | Today is the deadline for seniors to apply for help from the state's senior prescription drug program. |
| Crime | KOMU News at 10 | 2/29 | 10 p.m. | 1:26 | A drag racing accident in Osage City sends one man to the hospital and the driver to jail with a hefty bond.<br>The accident happened on Engineers road north of highway fifty.<br>KOMU's Amber Lyon has the report. |
| Health | KOMU News at 10 | 3/1 | 10 p.m. | 2:21 | An unusual political alliance is pushing for more prescription drug coverage for seniors.<br>Republican Peter Kinder and democrat Ken Jacob are both candidates for lieutenant governor.<br>But the two are co-sponsoring a bill for seniors. |
| Consumer | KOMU News at 10 | 3/2 | 10 p.m. | 2:31 | We all gladly plop down a credit card...paying someone else to fix our dinner now and then.<br>But that meal could lead to problems you never expected.<br>As target eight investigator Michael Buczyner shows us, some restaurants print out some of your most valuable information. |
| Education | KOMU News at 6 | 3/3 | 6 p.m. | 1:36 | School board elections are about a month away and voters in many districts will be asked to approve higher taxes. |

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| Crime | KOMU News at 10 | 3/4 | 10 p.m. | 2:28 | Two inmates are on the loose tonight.<br>They escaped earlier today in Howard county<br>The two missing offenders are 22 year old Kurt Henderson and 23-year old Jessy Salamone. |
| Consumer | KOMU News at 5 | 3/5 | 5 p.m. | :24 | And a bill passed in the Missouri house on Thursday... Could stiffen penalties for stealing someone's identity.<br>Identity theft now carries a sentence of up to six months in jail for the first offense, one year for the second offense and up to five years for three or more offenses.<br>The bill sets a scale of penalties based on the value of the goods purchased using the stolen identity. |
| Consumer | KOMU news at 6 | 3/6 | 6 p.m. | :45 | There is a new option for phone calls.<br>"Voice over internet" lets calls come and go through the same line as your computer.<br>It has familiar features... Like caller I-D and call forwarding... |
| Crime | KOMU News at 10 | 3/7 | 10 p.m. | 2:23 | Thursday afternoon two inmates of the Boonville correctional facility walked away while on a prison work release program.<br>Yesterday afternoon, Boonville correctional officials called in reinforcements from Vandalia, Chillicothe and Fulton to help look for the prisoners...<br>And, around eleven P-M last night, a state highway patrol officer captured the inmates. |
| Jobs/Economy | KOMU News at 6 | 3/8 | 6 p.m. | :37 | Columbia schools will get 32-million dollars less than expected over this year and next.<br>So the district will cut 50 jobs...saving more than 4 million dollars. |

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| Drugs/Alcohol Abuse | KOMU News at 10 | 3/9 | 10 p.m. | :24 | And kids aren't just looking at alcohol websites; they're also looking around the house for intoxicants.<br>A new report shows that more kids are huffing household products like hair spray, nail polish remover and glue.<br>The report says one in five teens admit to having abused inhalants before entering high school.<br>And some kids begin as early as six years old.<br>Experts say abusing inhalants can lead to more serious drug use later on. |
| Crime | KOMU News at 10 | 3/10 | 10 p.m. | :45 | An anonymous tip led the Randolph county sheriff's department to find the remains of a 19 year old Moberly woman.<br>Naomi White's remains were found in the Chariton River about two to three miles northwest of Prairie Hill in Chariton County. |
| Education | KOMU News at 10 | 3/11 | 10 p.m. | :32 | It was a contest that started with more than eight-thousand students throughout Mid-Missouri.<br>And a chance to compete in the largest spelling bee in the nation |
| Health | KOMU News at 6 | 3/12 | 6 p.m. | :25 | Eating foods like eggs, peanuts, and broccoli when you're pregnant may increase your baby's learning and memory capabilities.<br>Researchers from Duke and Durham universities say pregnant mice that were given the nutrient choline (co-lean) had babies with larger and faster moving memory cells in the brain than those who didn't get the nutrient.<br>The body uses choline to help transmit messages between nerves and that extra memory boost could help protect against memory decline and diseases like |

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| | | | | | Alzheimer's. |
| Consumer | KOMU News at 6 | 3/13 | 6 p.m. | 1:02 | Next time you're paying for gas directly at the pump, beware of a new device thieves use to steal your identity. |
| Crime | KOMU News at 10 | 3/14 | 10 p.m. | :17 | Back in the U-S, police in Fresno say it's the worst mass murder case in the history of the city.<br>This amateur video shows several caskets inside suspect Marcus Wesson's home.<br>Nine people - mostly children - were found dead in the house on Friday.<br>Police suspect they were his children and grandchildren. |
| Drug/Alcohol Abuse | KOMU News at 10 | 3/15 | 10 p.m. | :41 | The alcohol and drug abuse treatment center is part of the Fulton state hospital.<br>The center operates as the only state-run facility in Missouri.<br>But not for much longer. |
| Health | KOMU News at 5 | 3/16 | 5 p.m. | :29 | There is a promising new development in the treatment of breast cancer.<br>a study shows the drug exemestane (ex-uh-mestane) is better at preventing cancer from coming back than the standard therapy, tamoxifen.<br>The study finds breast-cancer patients who switched to exemestane after 2 to 3 years of tamoxifen had a longer period of disease-free survival compared to women who stayed on tamoxifen for five years.<br>Both drugs affect estrogen levels, a hormone that feeds some breast tumors.<br>Cancer experts don't yet know how the drug affects overall survival |

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| Jobs/Economy | KOMU News at 10 | 3/17 | 10 p.m. | 1:56 | Presidential candidates talk about it and now state lawmakers are, too.<br>It's called outsourcing...when companies hire cheaper labor overseas.<br>40 states have discovered outsourcing. And taxpayers are paying for it. |
| Government | KOMU News at 6 | 3/18 | 6 p.m. | 1:48 | It'll be at least a week before lawmakers do any more work on that bill and all the others....the legislature's spring break is upon us.<br>KOMU capitol caucus reporter David Wyant shows us what lawmakers have accomplished...and what's still ahead. |
| Jobs/Economy | KOMU News at 6 | 3/19 | 6 p.m. | 1:18 | State farm insurance flew 90 of its employees and their families from Monroe, Louisiana, to Columbia today.<br>The company wants to show potential job transfers what Columbia has to offer. |
| Education | KOMU News at 6 | 3/20 | 6 p.m. | 1:28 | There's a battle brewing down the road in Keytesville Missouri.<br>KOMU's Gerran Thomas tells us why students and community members are fighting for a change. |
| Government | KOMU News at | 3/21 | p.m. | | Senator Kit Bond officially kicked off his re-election campaign today with stops in Kansas City and Columbia.<br>Bond spoke to a group of supporters at the Boone County fire protection district headquarters.<br>His speech focused on Missouri jobs, health care, education and the war on terror.<br>Bond says protecting and creating jobs is his top priority. |
| Crime | KOMU News | 3/22 | 6 | :43 | Police are investigating a home invasion on |

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| | at 6 | | p.m. | | Columbia's northwest side.<br>Shortly after midnight, police were called to a house in the 14-hundred block of Lowe street.<br>The caller said two men pushed their way into his house. |
| Jobs/Economy | KOMU News at 6 | 3/23 | 6 p.m. | 1:39 | The job market as of late has been pretty rough, but a private employment survey reports more job opportunities in Mid-Missouri.<br>KOMU's Lori Taylor looks at what industries might have more job opportunities. |
| Government | KOMU News at 10 | 3/24 | 10 p.m. | :37 | The U-S Supreme Court must decide if the words "under God" have a place in the pledge of allegiance.<br>The justices debated today whether a California father had the right to challenge phrase on behalf of his daughter.<br>Some argue the reference to god is merely ceremonial... And reciting the pledge is a civic exercise<br>Others say it goes beyond separation of church and state. |
| Health | KOMU News at 5 | 3/25 | 5 p.m. | 1:20 | Video games,<br>Television, fast food...<br>And NOT enough exercise...<br>The main factors behind the rising trend of obesity in children. |
| Government | KOMU News at 6 | 3/26 | 6 p.m. | 1:51 | With less than one week before filing closes, republicans still need to find a candidate from mid-Missouri for the state senate.<br>Term limits are forcing democrat Ken Jacob from the seat. |
| Jobs/Economy | KOMU News | 3/27 | 10 | 1:46 | Speaking of elections...President Bush and |

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| | at 10 | | p.m. | | democrat John Kerry are spending the weekend talking about the economy.<br>Kerry made a stop in Kansas City, and Saint Louis earlier today.<br>As NBC's Jane Watrel reports...each candidate is offering plans to help Americans prosper during a sluggish job market. |
| Consumer | KOMU News at 10 | 3/28 | 10 p.m. | :34 | There's a new trend in video games...<br>Several new games, either out now or coming soon, let you pack a punch. |
| Government | KOMU News at 10 | 3/29 | 10 p.m. | :51 | Incumbent Kit Bond officially added his name to the senate race today.<br>His campaign will focus on his record of senate leadership and agricultural issues.<br>Yet bond admits he can't ignore the idea that this November is also a presidential election year. |
| Consumer | KOMU News at 6 | 3/30 | 6 p.m. | :37 | Trips to the grocery store this summer could cost a little more.<br>Economists say food costs are already up more than three percent this year.<br>Livestock diseases and the popularity of high-protein diets are driving beef and poultry prices higher.<br>This year's price increases could be the highest since 1996.<br>Consumers can already see the increase at the checkout line. |
| Crime | KOMU News at 10 | 3/31 | 10 p.m. | :27 | A 24-year-old man is the first person in Palm Beach County, Florida to be charged in the death of a fetus.<br>William Altier was driving drunk when he sped |

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| | | | | | through an intersection last august and crashed into a woman's car.<br>The woman was eight months pregnant and driving in the car with her mother who died at the scene.<br>The baby was delivered stillborn the next day.<br>Altier faces five felony charges. |