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## **KOMU 8 News Wins 9 Awards From Kansas City Press Club**

COLUMBIA, MO – KOMU 8 was honored with nine awards from the Kansas City Press Club at its annual Heart of America awards ceremony on Saturday in Kansas City.

KOMU 8 News received first-place honors in the following categories:

- **Investigative Reporting:** “Target 8: Spice makers use new compounds to make product legal” by reporter Jessica Mensch and Target 8 chief investigator Jamie Grey.
- **Public Service Project:** “Grand Opening of Joplin Schools,” with reporting led by KOMU 8 News Anchor Jim Riek with reporters Hannah Battah, Lee Anne Denyer and Tyler Greever.
- **Beat Reporting:** “Inside Infertility,” a five-part news series by KOMU 8 News Anchor Brittany Pieper.
- **Sports Reporting:** “Love is Blind” by sports reporters Mihir Bhagat and Brent Pearson.
- **Entertainment Reporting:** World Series Coverage, a staff effort led by Riek with producers Ashley Colley and Ky Bright.

KOMU 8 News received additional honors in the following categories:

- **Public Service Project (Second Place):** “Town Square – Bullying and The Working Poor,” led by Executive Producer Jeimmie Nevalga, Interactive Director Annie Hammock, news anchor Angie Bailey and Denyer.

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- **Sports Reporting** (Second Place): “Special Season” by Bhagat.
- **Sports Reporting** (Third Place): “Mexico Cheerleader” by Greever.
- **Sports Reporting** (Honorable Mention): “Waiting Game” by Bhagat and Clayton Conness.

Entries for the Kansas City Press Club’s award ceremony were accepted from news organizations in Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa and Missouri.

“These awards showcase KOMU 8’s commitment to journalism excellence and public service, and we are proud of and honored by this recognition from our peers across the region,” said KOMU 8 General Manager Marty Siddall.

“This is another shining example of the work we strive for every day. These awards showcase the work of our veterans and our student journalists,” said KOMU 8 News Director Randy Reeves.

KOMU 8 is an auxiliary enterprise of the University of Missouri and is expected to generate all revenues for station operations. Its operations and investments in broadcast technology are funded entirely by advertising and retransmission revenues. The station receives no funding from the university or state.