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KOMU 8 News Wins 7 Awards From Kansas City Press Club

COLUMBIA, MO – KOMU 8 News won four Gold Awards, two Silver Awards and one Bronze Award from the Kansas City Press Club at its annual Heart of America awards ceremony on Saturday.

KOMU 8 News earned Gold Awards in the following categories:

- **Breaking News**, awarded for team coverage of Ryan Ferguson’s release from prison.
- **Beat Reporting**, awarded to KOMU 8 News Anchor Brittany Pieper for education reporting.
- **Sports Reporting**, awarded to KOMU 8 News Reporter Mihir Bhagat for the story of a football player’s return to the field after a serious injury.
- **Feature**, awarded to former KOMU 8 News Anchor Emily Spain and videographer Scott Schaefer for their feature on a teenager who gained national attention for her shooting skills.

KOMU 8 News also won the following Silver and Bronze awards:

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- **Profile (Silver)**, awarded to Spain and Schaefer for sharing the story of a high school class reunion celebrating 70 years.
- **Public Service Project (Silver)**, awarded to KOMU 8 News Anchor Jim Riek for coverage of the second anniversary of the Joplin tornado.
- **Public Service Project (Bronze)**, awarded to Pieper, Spain, KOMU 8 News Anchor Megan Judy and News Director Stacey Woelfel for Poverty in Plain Sight, an ongoing series on poverty in Mid-Missouri.

“These awards point to the outstanding journalism that our news team produces every day. Their hard work and talents stood out among news organizations in the region, and we’re very proud of that,” said KOMU 8 General Manager Marty Siddall.

“The awards from the Kansas City Press Club come across a number of reporting categories, so I thank the judges for recognizing us for so much of what we do,” Woelfel said.

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.