

Welcome to my internship journal! This is an account of everything I've done while at KHQA during the summer of 2005. Below are some explanations of the format as well as a description of the people I worked with. Enjoy!

- *Stories of the day are stories I had a hand in or went to help someone with, but those that are underlined are the stories I was responsible for shooting, writing, and editing by myself.*
- *Stories with an asterisk (*) indicate a package—a longer feature story where I am on air reading the story and in most of these I appear on camera.*
- ***Key People:***

<i>Carol- News Director</i>	<i>Matt- Anchor/Producer</i>
<i>Jim-Assignment Director</i>	<i>Rajah- Anchor/Producer</i>
<i>Chad-Anchor/Reporter</i>	<i>Tegan-Reporter/weekend weather</i>
<i>Mike-Reporter</i>	<i>Duffy-A.M. Weather</i>
<i>Stephen-Reporter/anchor/producer</i>	<i>Gary-P.M. Weather</i>
<i>Seth-A.M. Producer</i>	<i>Elizabeth- The other intern</i>
<i>Sara-Reporter</i>	<i>Chris & Kurt- Sports</i>

5/23/05 Mon. Day 1

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Stories of the day: School closing, Salvation Army, Shelbina proposition

I arrived for my first day of my internship at around 8:30. I met Chad Douglas (anchor/reporter), Jim Whitfield (assignment editor), Seth (a.m. producer), and Carol Sowers (News director). Carol had me fill out some paperwork and I learned about the Associated Press system on their computer that they use to search for/write stories, create show rundowns, make announcements, etc.

Around 11:00 I went with Chad to a parochial school that is closing down so he could do a vo-sot (video with an interview). I just got a quick overview of how they do stories like this. They use archive tapes to put their video footage on and show tapes for the sound (SOT= sound on tape). They put these in specific boxes depending on when it will air (6 or 10 for example). At noon I watched the noon news from the studio, which was very interesting! I also met one of their meteorologists, Duffy Atkins, and the camera lady, Joyce.

At 1:00 I went with a reporter, Sara Anderson, to the Salvation Army where demolition is underway to build a new community center in Quincy. She did a vo-sot for this. Next I went with her to Shelbina, MO to a city hall meeting about a proposition for a highway expansion. Sara gave me some camera tips and I watched later as she wrote and edited the story. **Some things I learned about the camera:**

- Attach battery & turn power on, make sure the tape is in
- Filter settings: 1=indoor, 2=outdoor sunny, 3=outdoor cloudy
- Usually set focus to automatic
- Check grain, also Zebra switch
- White balance, click lever twice until it says ok. Do this frequently when your lighting changes

Other news terminology I learned:

- vo=video
- vo/sot=video and sound on tape
- Package=extended story, usually a feature type
- Reader=anchor reads from prompter
- Tease=previews an upcoming story
- FSS=comes up on screen to give info (addresses, contact info, crime alerts, etc)

5/25/05 Wed. Day 2***9:00 a.m. to 5:40 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Pool package, Baldwin, Berrian, St. Boniface schools******Shot my first video***

I Met Stephen Johnson, a reporter and weekend anchor. I went with Stephen and Chad to do a package at a pool in town that will be opening up on Memorial Day. I learned a lot about creative shooting and got to watch Stephen do a stand up from a really tall water slide....you never know what you'll be doing in this job! I also got on the news very briefly as I was walking behind Stephen in one of his shots—my debut ☺ We also went to the Baldwin School where they were have Southwest Shindig days. Young kids are very excited when news crews come.

I ended up going with Stephen for the rest of the day to do a variety of stories, many of which were about these parochial schools that are closing in Quincy. At Berrian school I got to shoot some of my first video of kids playing on a playground. I also learned to white balance the camera myself, and later got an introduction to editing sound bytes. Later we went to St. Boniface school where I got to try shooting off my shoulder, which I found was quite difficult. Everything they do is typically off of a tripod. Later I got more of an introduction to how to go about writing these vo-sot stories and watched the pool package get put together. I had some input on what to use....packages are much more complicated than vo-sots. Stephen was extremely helpful all day, really explaining everything he did, letting me try things myself, and he answered my questions. He gave me a copy of a sheet that better described editing packages. It was really neat to see the video I shot on the news that night.

5/27/05 Fri. Day 3***9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Duffy live shot, Red Cross, Gus Macker, Breaking news******Went on first breaking news story***

Today began as a rather slow news day. I spent some time figuring out how to use that AP system and used the news wires to read stories that were going on throughout the tri-states and also nationwide. I also read through the rundowns for noon and 6 pm shows to see what was planned. At noon I got to go with Duffy the meteorologist to do a live shot from a blood drive in town. This was really interesting! They bring in a big truck and an extra camera man and it seems like quite a production. (Usually KHQA doesn't have their own camera guys and the reporters do it themselves). WGEM, the other Quincy station, was there doing a live shot as well, however Duffy was more well received by the public.

Later on I went with news/sports reporter Mike Irvine back to the Red Cross blood drive to get some shots so he could use them for the 6 pm show. I also got to do some camera work here. Later on we went to the Quincy park where people were signing up for the big Gus Macker basketball tournament. It is a pretty big deal in Quincy and there were a lot of people around signing up. Suddenly we got a call from Jim with some breaking news to cover. There was a guy running from the cops and was outside of a hospital. We zoomed over to where he was at and got some video of him. He looked to be in pretty rough shape—bruised and bloody. I got to shoot off the shoulder here—it was a pretty tense situation, but it was great to get to see everything take shape and get there in time to shoot it.

5/30/05 Mon. (Memorial Day)***Had the day off******6/1/05 Wed. Day 4******9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Corn, Beau's new job, Kinderhook Make a Wish House**

I got pretty deep into learning how to work the camera as well as how to edit things today. I spent the day with Stephen, going with him on his assigned stories. He really does an excellent job of explaining what to do and he asks questions and I feel like I actually retain the information. We first went to the U of IL extension in Quincy where there is some sort of agricultural bureau. We met with Mike Rogee to talk about the lack of rainfall and how this is affecting crops. Then we went to a nearby field and shot some corn. It may not seem too interesting, but it really forces you to be creative and it was a great way to learn different camera angles and things of that nature. I did some close, wide, and medium shots and learned to set up the camera, as well as hooking up the battery, using chargers, etc.

Later on we went to Sawyer's Creek in Hannibal where ex-WGEM weather man Beau Hicks is the new tourism director. I got to shoot all of the video for this story, and it was great because there were lots of kids in little boats, people walking around, trolley rides, etc. I was really trying to be creative and I think I did a good job. We also went through Hull... Stephen wanted me to take note of that for some reason. We then went to a house in Kinderhook where a girls room was getting a makeover for the Make-a-wish foundation. Eventually this is going to be a before/after package so we got some before shots of the interior.

Later when we got back to the newsroom Stephen broke down the editing routine for me and I took some notes on how it is done. Also, all the editing happens in different little rooms called editing bays. We first make sort of a skeleton for the story as far as writing goes on the computer, then we looked for a soundbyte to base our story off of, or at least to complement some aspect of the story. I learned that you need to write down the quote you take (to type later for closed captioning purposes) and look for a SOT usually no longer than 12 seconds. I learned how to lay a countdown to start with on your tapes. I learned how to set the sound levels and record both video and audio. A lot of things kind of flew past me here because the editing becomes a little bit complicated and it was all very new. Stephen was very good about going step by step and I'm sure that if it continues this way, I'll learn in no time.

Information to archive your tape:

- Time code (starting point on tape)
- Archive tape #
- Length
- Type (vo, vo-sot, pkg)

Other helpful hints of the day:

- Gas tank on KHQA Ford Focus is on the passenger's side
- Fill up at the BP on 36th & state where KHQA has an account
- Carol likes close-ups
- Carol insists that if you do not take "footage" (that is for film), you take "video"
- Things to do with your story—do it for 6, do it for 10, archive it, put it online

How to put your story online:

- re-do story w/out macro codes
- make quotes like normal writing, not the SOT
- Go to clickability site and put it under front page and news, set it to come up 1 hr. after news airs
- come up w/ title, summary, who did it, etc.

6/3/05 Fri. Day 5***9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Canton theater******First time editing video by myself***

Today I went with Stephen to Canton, MO to get some shots of a theater that is undergoing major renovations. The theater was beautiful and I got some exterior shots for the story. We went inside and I talked to the ladies we interviewed about their plans for the theater. They were very excited, and later Stephen reiterated how important it is to have a rapport with the people you deal with. They will begin to trust you and are more open with information they share.

When we got back to the studio I was left alone to do some of the editing, which was a little scary, but the only way to really learn it. We decided on a sot to use and I went through the whole SOT process. That is probably the most confusing part. Then I started to get the hang of editing video on my own after I learned the whole sequence of buttons you have to push (player, enter-in, recorder, enter-in, preview or edit start). I also learned some of the logic behind writing short news stories and how to make a good opening line.

6/6/05 Mon. Day 6***9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Quincy park kick-off, Kiwanis donation, airport gas tanks**

I did several stories today with Mike. Jim asked me if I was ready to shoot all by myself today, but honestly, I wasn't that confident yet. We first went to a local park where the Quincy Park District was having a ribbon cutting ceremony to

mark the beginning of their summer children's recreation program. Mike set me loose to do the video for this piece and I ran the camera for his interview. I did some of my first actual shooting off my shoulder, which is much more difficult that it appears, especially for close-ups. Mike is also a sports guy, so he's used to getting the action shots.

Following that story we went down to the Quincy Holiday Inn where the Kiwanis Club was making some major donations. Mike was with me for this as well, and WGEM was also covering the story. I got to do my first ever interview with Joe Henning, the police chief/VP of Kiwanis Club. I think it went well for the first time. I really enjoy the interviewing! Mike just told me to remember to stay closer to the camera so we get more of a head on shot of the person rather than a profile. I later edited this into a vo-sot. I have a pretty good grasp on the video but still needed help on the SOT. I tried to take some notes on this to better understand it. The difficult part of always working with different people is that they all have their own shortcuts.

Later in the afternoon I went with Tegan (weekend weather/reporter) to get some video of gas tanks at the Quincy airport. I'm not quite sure what the situation was with that, but apparently something was going on. I also learned that she is a former college cheerleader, so we had lots to talk about. When we got back we both edited our shots into video. We had some trouble shooting video through a fence, but it ended up working out.

6/8/05 Wed. Day 7***9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Salvation Army progress******MY FIRST STORY BY MYSELF!!!***

Wow!! I was so nervous! I got to the station and Jim had me go do my first story on my own. It was a story about the progress the Salvation Army is making with their community center project. They are doing a community needs assessment to figure out what they will do with the project. I interviewed Major Alan Wurtz—first Jim drew me a map (The place was in Quincy) and gave me a few interview questions to ask. I drove the clunky Hannibal Wagon there and was so worried about not getting there in time or wrecking the car or something. It really wasn't that bad once I got there. I found the place and got my tripod ready. (I actually had a hard time getting the camera on the tripod). Then I did the interview and got some construction shots. After that I came back and started editing. Still needed some help on the SOT (I'm very apprehensive on that part). But the video turned out great! I also had to re-write the story into a v-o for 10 p.m. It took me most of the morning to get through that whole process.

Later that afternoon was an actual training session for the new Associated Press system that would be installed on the computers. I learned how to write in a story, use the wires, search, message people, and also figured out my read rate. I don't remember what mine is, but I thought I did a good job. Also in the training session were the meteorologists and a couple other reporters. There were some really severe storms going on at the time and it was fun to be in the midst of that whole situation. Later on I talked to Frank Brady, the general manager of KHQA. He told me I should talk to Gary (chief meteorologist) before I headed home about what the weather would be. It is so cool to be able to hop on over to the weather lab and just find out what it will be like. I love this place ☺

6/10/05 Fri. Day 8***9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Governor Vilsack in Mt. Pleasant and Carthage Strawberry Festival******FIRST MAJOR STORY TO TRAVEL TO BY MYSELF!***

The first words I was greeted with this morning by Jim was, "We're sending you to Mt. Pleasant today by yourself." Inside I was freaking out but on the outside I just said, oh, ok. I couldn't believe that my second day of reporting by myself would entail me traveling 2 hours to interview the governor of Iowa. WOW. It went from Quincy Salvation Army to Governor Vilsack....that's quite a stretch. Jim got me together with some gear and some Yahoo driving directions and sent me on my way. He told me he'd let me drive the Focus because "it has cruise control". He and Carol told me I'd be fine, and I think this story was sort of a test from them to see if I could really handle it.

Well, turns out Jim didn't allow me quite enough time to get there, but it was as much as I could have had considering I come in at 9 a.m. I made it to Mt. Pleasant about 20 minutes after this thing was about to start, and I was freaking out. I hadn't even found Iowa Wesleyan College yet so I called Carol, figuring I had missed the whole thing and I wanted to know what to do. She just told me to try my best. So I stopped at a gas station for directions and found the place. Not because he was speaking in the same place the press release said, but I just saw another news vehicle outside so I

figured I must be at the right place. LUCKILY he was running late too so I was able to catch his little speech and get an interview afterward. It was actually a press conference and there were lots of other news media there too. I was elated to know that I got the story and didn't let Jim and Carol down. Vilsack was there to talk about his new early childhood initiative, Strong Start. I actually met him and got to ask a couple of questions. How cool!

On the way back, I went through Carthage and got some shots of their preparation for the Strawberry festival. There weren't any strawberries out yet so I felt kind of silly. I still got some good shots though, and then I headed back to the station for editing. I pulled the whole 2 stories off with a little help, and then re-did them for the 10:00 show. Definitely the most stressful day yet. I couldn't wait to get home and see my stuff on TV!!!

6/12/05 Sun. Day 9 (unofficial)***3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.*****Some editing tutoring from Stephen******First day fully understanding how to edit a SOT!***

Stephen had encouraged me to come in on a weekend when it is slower paced to learn some more in-depth editing stuff. My parents came down to do some shopping so they dropped me off. I saw how they get national news from computers/televisions in a special editing room. I edited one together as a vo-sot and I took some detailed notes about doing vo-sots. Stephen also helped me with writing stories into the new system with the new macro codes. It is pretty confusing, but at least a little more advanced than the last system. Coming in today was extremely beneficial because I finally felt confident with doing an entire vo-sot on my own. It was also nice to get in some extra hours on a day that wasn't incredibly busy. The whole weekend environment is much more laid back and different than the weekdays.

6/13/05 Mon. Day 10***9:00 a.m. to 6:00p.m.*****Stories of the day: United Way, QU sports program, Father's Day story, Skate ramps, Stabbing******FIRST BREAKING/URGENT NEWS TO DO ON MY OWN (Top story)***

Today a new intern started. Her name is Elizabeth and she is only going to be a sophomore in college. She says she wants to be the next Katie Couric....don't we all. Anyway, she hasn't had any experience in broadcasting so it looks like even though I've only been there about 10 days, I'll be teaching her what I know so far. The day began with Mike and I going to the Holiday Inn for a United Way press conference. It had something to do with them getting and giving out money to different groups. This was Mike's story so I just kind of watched and learned. Then we came back to the station and I met Elizabeth. We all went to Quincy University for a kid's sports camp going on there. We all got some video of kids learning things like soccer and softball and I did an interview...however later in the day it got taped over so this vo-sot turned into a v-o. My first mistake on the job...oh well, I guess I'll remember to get it to the right spot on the tape next time! Stephen was producing and he said it was ok ☺

Later on our little group went to Gamemaster's (an outdoorsy store) so Mike could do a package on Father's Day gift ideas. The store wasn't very busy so Elizabeth and I got to pose as customers looking at various items. I also shot Mike's stand-up where he incorporated a fake duck....good stuff. Immediately following we went to Hannibal to check the progress on the brand new skate park with ramps and things like that. Mike got my video and I interviewed one of the kids using the ramps. I learned you really have to be strategic with the questions you ask kids in order to get a usable response. We also had some drama on the way home because Mike thought he might have forgotten to white balance at Gamemaster's. Fortunately he did, whew! Anyway, the skate park was a very visual story and I got to put my newfound SOT knowledge to use.

As the afternoon went on, Jim hears over the scanner that there is a stabbing at a house in Quincy. He gets word of this at around 5:15, and he sent me to get the video, bring it back, and edit it by 5:45. Talk about a deadline!! So I rushed out and got the video (WGEM was also there) of this house where nothing was still going on, but it was crucial to get because it just happened. Once I had what I needed I scurried back, hopped in the editing bay, and got the tape to the control room. What a rush!! Jim said he was impressed that I was able to get that story on the air. It was the top story on the news!!

6/15/05 Wed. Day 11

9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Stories of the day: Camp Point Electricity School, Jacksonville Fire

Today Elizabeth and I were sent out together to do a couple of vo-sots out in her neck of the woods. She knew that area so she drove out to Camp Point and Jacksonville. In Camp Point kids were learning about electricity by making their own extension cords and pop can lamps. I interviewed the woman in charge and coached Elizabeth on shooting video. It seems odd to be actually teaching someone else already! I like doing things with kids in action; it is so easy to get interesting and fun shots.

From there we went to Jacksonville to get some shots of the oldest building in town which survived (kind of) a fire the day before. Elizabeth did her first interview with the owner of the restaurant next door, and then we finally found the fire department and I interviewed the fire chief. It turned into sort of a double story, so one vo-sot aired at 6 with one guy, and the other at 10 with the chief.

Even though I knew what I was doing as far as editing was concerned, it still took a long time because counting the recuts for the 10:00 show, I was doing 4 stories since Elizabeth didn't know all about editing yet. I had her take some notes so I think she's at least kind of understanding things. Once again, it seems odd that a rookie like me is teaching her, but I guess that's just the way it goes! It's fun though and I like to see that I've helped her make some progress.

6/17/05 Fri. Day 12

9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Stories of the day: Emergency Response Vehicle, Madonna House, Health Fair

Today was a rather jumbled up day. It started with Mike and I going to city hall for a press conference about a new emergency response vehicle that is coming to Quincy. This was my story so I did the interview, but he got the video for it. He just seems to like to grab the camera and get stuff done. Then he had a followup story with one of the police guys so I did the camera for that. It just turned into a simple vo-sot, but a quick vo at noon. After this Mike and I went to the Madonna house so he could do a story on the renovations going on there. This is a home for young mothers in bad circumstances so Mike was glad to not be going there by himself. Unfortunately the camera was out of focus for his interview so after we noticed the problem back at the newsroom, he had to reshoot the interview. Seemed like it was my fault but apparently there was something about the focus he hadn't told me about yet.

Carol ordered pizza for lunch. Yay! Then I had to take the wagon to the bureau in Keokuk so Noah could switch cars with me since his khqa sable had to be serviced in Quincy. It's always comforting to be traveling in a car you know has to be serviced soon, haha. Anyway, that was just a little job for me, no big deal. On the way back Jim wanted me to get video of a big monster truck in town. So I went to where it was supposed to be but it wasn't there. Turns out Kurt from sports was going to cover that story later anyway.

Then at 4 I had to go to "the ghetto" of Quincy (Jim's words) to cover a health fair. It was specific to African Americans and their health needs. Kind of interesting, but the lateness of the fair also forced me to rush in order to get it edited for the news and recut for 10:00. It all worked out though; just another vo-sot to add to the list.

6/20/05 Mon. Day 13

9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Stories of the day: I-LOAN Mortgage Program, Kiwanis Meeting

Today was probably the first time I had to call and set up my own interview for something. This week Jim was on vacation so Carol was the fill-in assignment editor. She basically gave me a sheet of paper that said "I-LOAN" and a phone number and I had to call it and figure out what was going on. For all I knew, I-loan was some sort of new business for potential home buyers, but this turned out to be a special program for the state of Illinois for first time home buyers. It's a little scary to go into something blind like that, but I ended up getting it all figured out. Elizabeth went with me and we got some video at this little press conference and did a quick interview.

After that we headed to the Holiday Inn for a Kiwanis Meeting. I think they may have been donating money somewhere, but I never did figure out exactly why this was a big deal. Anyway, Elizabeth pretty much handled that

story. I remembered how editing was sort of difficult to pick up with nothing on paper to refer to, so I printed off some instructions for Elizabeth so she could start trying it on her own. She was very appreciative!

6/21/05 Tues. Day 14

9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Stories of the day: Summertime stuff around town, Air conditioners*

****MY FIRST PACKAGE!!!***

Today was so great! I got to do my first package ever on getting your air conditioner ready for the summer heat. First I went with Mike to do a couple of stories. One was on the first day of summer in Quincy and what people are up to. Then we got started on my package! We started out by going to Peters heating and air conditioning to get an interview with Steve Peters. Then he hooked us up with one of his guys who was going out to do a repair or something. This way we could get some video of a.c. repair. Later on we went to Mikes to get video of his window unit. It was so nice to not have to be out totally on my own for my first package.

When we got back to the station, Mike kind of got me started, but as far as editing a package, I really didn't know what I was doing. Unfortunately he had his own stories to work on so he was able to find Tegan and luckily she wasn't busy. She helped me get my audio levels set and helped with the full screen graphic that scanned in when I read off the checklist of things to check on your air conditioner. It was really fun putting my voice over the video! I didn't have a stand up in this package where you see me on camera, but I was definitely satisfied with just getting to do a package! I know it might not have been the best in the world, but it was definitely good enough for my first time!

6/22/05 Wed. Day 15

9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Stories of the day: Hannibal pipeline story, hospital double check procedure, Orpheum Theater renovations*

****MY FIRST STAND-UP!***

Today I had another package to do! Wow this was the craziest day yet though. There was only one camera and one vehicle (due to a lot of sports stuff that was going on that day, lots of cameras and cars were in use). So Stephen, Elizabeth, and I all went together to do some stories in Hannibal. First we went to Hannibal's Orpheum theater, which is being renovated. It is a very historic theater and they are going to re-open it with some Vaudeville inspired shows. I interviewed a couple of the guys in charge and got lots of great video from all over the theater from the lobby to the upstairs to the stage. Later we went to do a quick story about some sort of pipeline project. Elizabeth took care of that one. Now we're starting to realize we're running close on time, and Stephen still had a package to shoot. We went to the Hannibal Regional Hospital and had to go to the surgery unit and actually put on white suits over our clothes. The nurses are doing some new double check procedure where they make sure they are doing the correct operation in the correct place on the correct patient. It was pretty interesting....but we had to get back to the station!

Time wouldn't have been such a problem, but today the show was going live from the Quincy Gems game so the deadline for scripts was 4:30! Keep in mind I am definitely still not well versed in doing packages and Stephen had his own to do...how was I going to get any help? So we're trying to get home from Hannibal as fast as possible, and we're just blocks away from the station when the Blazer breaks down!! We were able to get it to drive to a nearby gas station and filled it up, even though it still had half a tank of gas. Fortunately it was able to get us back to the station after that. So I had written my story and it was approved and now it was time to edit...I still wasn't sure what I was doing at all. Noah got me started and reminded me about all the audio levels, but I really needed more help than that. Turns out everyone else was busy so I was on my own. I basically just figured it out and made it work. When it got to be about 4:25 and I still wasn't done, I was freaking out! Also my audio was screwing up. Now someone finally helped me and we ended up getting it done...but wow how stressful it was! It was a little late, but not too late to get in the show.

Oh but that wasn't the end of my day. I still had to re-cut the package into a vosot. (All packages go to vosots for the 10:00 show usually). And after that Elizabeth and I had to make an appearance at the Quincy Gems game with KHQA and throw out some t-shirts. Going 3 days in a row was pretty rough with the drive and all....but I had to because I had to go to cheerleading camp this weekend. I'm just so relieved that it all ended up working out.

6/24/05 Fri. (Cheerleading camp @ MC)

Went Mon/Tues/Wed this week since camp started Thursday

6/27/05 Mon. Day 16***9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Fireworks safety, Fireworks legalities, Connable Rd. fire**

Today at the fire station there was a press conference/demonstration on firework safety and what is legal/illegal. Elizabeth and I went to cover this, and split it up into 2 stories on safety and legalities. I took the legalities story and talked to a police officer about it. Actually Elizabeth did my interview and seemed to think I was her camera person or something. She needs to start working the camera for herself so when she's out on her own she knows what to do. It seems like I've been her teacher all this time. And I don't really mind it, but its just sort of like intern teaching intern. I guess as long as I have a handle on things, I'm ok with it.

For the 10:00 show I was going to put the 2 fireworks stories together for a package, but there was breaking news around Hamilton, IL where a barn caught on fire and was spreading to nearby buildings. Since I knew where that was, I went to cover it and ended up having Elizabeth take over that package. It was fun to get to do the breaking news so that switch was ok with me. Once I got back I just put together a vosot on the fire and Tegan and I helped Elizabeth with her package. I also took some notes on certain things Tegan mentioned. It was good for me to get to see someone else editing it. Now I definitely feel that I could edit one completely on my own.

6/29/05 Wed. Day 17***9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: MASH camp*, Hannibal Cannibal Run, Pets in hot weather**

Elizabeth and I headed to Hannibal to take care of some stories there. I had a package to do on MASH camp, and Elizabeth had a couple of vosots, one of which she could do more with if she wanted. MASH camp is a thing at the Hannibal hospital where kids can learn the basics of what it takes to work in a medical profession. They learned how to put on casts, go to a suture lab, etc. For my package I got video of a woman teaching them about fractures and casts, then I interviewed a girl involved with the camp and a woman who organized it. I did a great standup with a girl actually wrapping my wrist as I was talking. This was a really fun package to do, and I was very confident editing it.

For Elizabeth's stories we interviewed a runner in the big Hannibal Cannibal marathon, and I helped her shoot her first stand-up. We also did a story on pets in hot weather and an animal control guy in Hannibal took us on one of his calls to a house where neglected animals had been a problem. Once we got back we hustled around editing our stories but got it all finished. I was really happy with how the MASH camp package turned out.

7/1/05 Fri. Day 18***9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Cornerstone******FIRST CAR BREAKDOWN**

Well this was a day full of surprises. I got to work, and was excited to find that I'd be covering the Cornerstone Christian music festival in Bushnell, mostly because I knew where Bushnell was, and also, it was going to be a package. It was going to be a very visual piece as well. So I hopped in the Sable and headed to Bushnell. To get there I ended up passing through my hometown of LaHarpe. Just outside of LaHarpe, the steering started to go out on the car and it just sort of came to a stop. So I'm not too pleased at this point, but we had a car at home that I could use to go ahead and get the story. I called Carol and she said I didn't have to continue on to go get the story, but I decided I should. My sister came with me so she could drive the second car home. Conveniently, a tow truck was passing by and was able to take the car to be serviced in LaHarpe. Now on to leg 2 of the journey.

In about 30 minutes we made it to Bushnell, and the next task was to find exactly where Cornerstone was, since it's on a campground somewhere. After 3 completely different sets of directions, we found the place. There were thousands of people there, and hundreds of bands. Definitely lots of things to get video of, and plenty of interview opportunities. It was fun having my sister there to see what exactly it is that I do. I did a stand up with some crazy kids in the background, and got some interesting interviews. There are some very far-out looking people at Cornerstone. We ended up getting back to the station around 3:15 and got started with the editing process. This is probably the biggest package I've had so far. I incorporated 3 different interviews, a stand-up, and a lot of additional info. It turned out great, but man was I exhausted. And I still had to re-cut it to a vosot for 10:00. So it was a long day, but things ended up working out and I had a great package to show for it.

7/4/05 Mon. (4th of July)

Had the day off

7/6/05 Wed. Day 19

9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Stories of the day: Hannibal Hospital Mobile Learning Center, Senior Dance*, England in Court

Today Elizabeth and I headed to Hannibal to cover several different events. She had a couple of vo-sots to do and I did a package. First we headed to Hannibal Regional Hospital where there was this huge semi-type vehicle known as the Mobile Learning Center. It was filled with all sorts of medical materials, videos, and interactive models for people of all ages to see and use. I did some camera work for Elizabeth's interview and then we made some camera adjustments for lighting as we got video from inside the learning center.

Following that, we headed to the Admiral Koontz armory for the senior dance that happens every Wednesday in Hannibal. On the surface this story seems to be rather insignificant, but I noticed that the people who attend this dance on a weekly basis take it very seriously. I really enjoyed how the story turned out when I was done editing it. I was trying to make connections with words and what people were actually seeing on screen. I didn't do a stand-up for this one because we were running close on time. The overall message of the story was interesting because the first part was background about the dance, but in the second half you could see how people actually come here to meet their future significant others and a woman I interviewed said it happens quite frequently.

Next we headed to the courthouse in Hannibal, basically just to get video of Dan England, a sex offender, as he was escorted into the courthouse. We also stayed there for awhile to see if we could get some notes on the case, but we didn't have enough time to get back home and get our stories edited before the evening news started so we had to head home. Overall I was really pleased with the package I did today and felt much more confident as I edited it.

7/8/05 Fri. Day 20

9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Stories of the day: Gruen in Court, Semi on fire

Today was shaping up to be a pretty slow news day. For awhile it seemed that there wouldn't be much at all for me to do, but Jim decided to send me all the way to Troy (That's practically the outskirts of St. Louis!) to sit in on the Bowling Green city administrator's court case. Dan Gruen was being charged for assault. This was my first real courtroom experience where there were witnesses and questioning and that type of thing. I of course couldn't have my camera in there to tape what was going on, so I took notes. I was the only person in the court room besides the lawyers, jury, and judge and other courtroom staff, and the witness at the time. It was a pretty touchy case—people were crying on the stand and I was genuinely curious as to what would happen to Mr. Gruen.

They took a break for lunch, so I called Carol to see if she wanted me to stay, and she said to just come on home. So I made the 2 hour drive back to Quincy and when I got there I put together a story called a reader where the anchor just reads the story without any video. Rajah helped me put together a full screen graphic as well. So after that, it went back to a slow news day. I didn't have too much to do, and then Jim and I hear over the scanner that a semi has caught fire outside of Palmyra. So at that point I knew that it would no longer be a relaxing Friday afternoon for me.

At about 4:30 I headed out to highway 61 north of Palmyra to get some video of this semi. Traffic was backed up for at least a mile but I went ahead and drove up to the nearest police car. They let me park and come close to the scene. (I beat WGEM there haha). The truck was in really rough shape. It was hauling 7-Up and part of the back and the cab where completely charred. I was efficient with the video I gathered because I had to get back and get this edited. Fortunately it was only about 15 minutes away from the station. After that, it was time to go home.

7/11/05 Mon. Day 21

9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Stories of the day: Quik Shop Fire, Ride with a cop program

Today Elizabeth and I headed south to Louisiana (MO). Elizabeth's story ended up falling through, so she ended up editing the Quik Shop fire video but I did the shooting. It was a gas station in Louisiana that had caught fire at 2 a.m. the night before and it was a total loss. Then we went to BowlingGreen for my vo-sot on the Ride with a Cop program.

This is pretty self-explanatory—anyone who is interested can ride around with a cop to see exactly what they do. A lot of kids are interested in this, and after talking to the police chief I found that this is a fairly typical thing in a lot of communities.

So once again, even though there was quite a bit of driving involved, this turned out to be a pretty slow news day. Both of these stories weren't extremely critical, but they were of interest to the people in those communities. It's times like these when KHQA definitely lives up to its saying of "more news, guaranteed", because even when it's a slow news day, Jim will come up with something.

7/13/05 Wed. Day 22***9:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.***

Stories of the day: Pittsfield library, police stakeout

This morning I went to a press conference in Pittsfield where John Wood Community College in Quincy and the Pittsfield public library were signing some sort of contract that would make an alliance between the two. This meant John Wood Students could use this library as well as the college library. Also the library would be getting new computers for research, as well as books. I interviewed the head of the library and also the president of John Wood. I was there early so I got to talk to John Wood's president, and I found that he used to go to Monmouth College! I thought that was really interesting. He said he loved the college and I think he is on some sort of board for the college as well. The people at the library waited around for awhile before they began the signing because the other news station, WGEM, said they would be there also. They never showed up, until I was just pulling out to leave and I saw them drive up. It feels good to be only an intern, but still on the ball enough to make it to the story early.

I had plenty of time when I got back to the station to get this edited and ready for the news in two different forms—I used one interview for the 6:00 news vo-sot and the other interview for the 10:00 news. Then later that afternoon we learned that there had been a stabbing in Paris, MO. We were trying to get some more information on this from the police, but they weren't saying much so Jim sent me, Elizabeth, and Tegan to Paris to snoop around asking townspeople what was going on, and also to do sort of a police stakeout at the courthouse to try to get them to talk to us. It was strange how they were being so hush-hush on the situation. We actually went to the cemetery and found the tracks from the car that had once been parked there with a body inside. This was a pretty scary story to be looking into, and we took some video of the cemetery where it happened, however the main purpose was just to get information. Our video would go on the next day's news since it had gotten so late.

7/15/05 Fri. Day 23***9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.***

Stories of the day: Pittsfield Clock Tower, ADA Celebration*

Today Mike Irvine and I went to Pittsfield to take care of a few stories. One of his ended up falling through and he decided to let me do the package on the ADA celebration. First we did the Clock Tower story and had very good timing as this historic clock was just being placed on top of the tower as we arrived in Pittsfield. Mike went ahead and did then interview so we could be on our way to Jacksonville for the American Disability Act celebration.

This was a very visual story and I was lucky to have Mike there to shoot my stand-up and get some good video for me as I scoped out some of the interviews. Lisa Madigan came out for the event so it was nice to get to interview someone prominent in our Illinois government. On the way home I worked on writing up my script so by the time we were back in Quincy I was ready to edit after Rajah looked over it. I really worked on incorporating some natural sound into this piece at the beginning and I liked the way it turned out. Carol is definitely a fan of nat sound so I'm going to have to get used to using it more often.

7/18/05 Mon. Day 24***9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.***

Stories of the day: Stronger Penalties for killing EMT's, Mail carriers and dogs*

It seemed strange to finally have a day without much traveling! I got to stay in Quincy for both of these stories and sort of went between the two as far as getting interviews. I began working on my mail carriers and dogs package by interviewing the lady from the post office. The post office sent out fliers requesting that people keep their pets under control when the mail carriers are coming because there have been some issues with injuries. After that I went to Blessing Hospital where I talked to one of the emergency medical people about the new penalty for injuring or killing an

emergency medical worker (for example hitting one with your vehicle when they are on the side of the road). I didn't have a lot of great visual material for this story until luckily the ambulances came back to the garage so I could get some shots of them.

I got my EMT story edited when I got back to the station, and then waited to hear from a letter carrier Jim contacted about following her while she was on her route to get shots of angry dogs. Eventually she called back and around 2:00 I met her at a certain street in town where she knew angry dogs tended to be. After getting permission from the owner I got shots of the dog barking as she walked up to the house among other things. I also got a really good interview from her. After I got all this done I went back to the station and put together a package. I had some volume issues between the two interviews I did, but other than that, it turned out great. I was glad to get to do something unique and different for a package.

7/20/05 Wed. Day 25***9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: New MRI, Hull Cash Dash, New Cheerful Home name & logo, Harry Potter Celebration**

Today was one of the busiest days so far. It takes a lot of time to shoot, write, and edit four stories, but I managed to get it done. The first story about the new MRI at Blessing Hospital took the most time. This MRI was being lowered through the roof of the hospital and they weren't exactly on track with the schedule they gave. I couldn't hang around all day to watch the entire process, but I got plenty for a vo-sot. What was interesting was that a couple of interns from WGEM along with a normal reporter showed up for this story and I recognized those interns from one of the first days I was on the job. The reporter was just now teaching them how to look through the camera lens! I had been doing that for about 25 days now, so I felt pretty ahead of the game when I was doing this story entirely by myself. I even carried my bag, tripod, and camera to the roof by myself. All the while I was so glad to be an intern at KHQA!

I had no idea at the beginning of the day how many stories I'd be doing. They just kind of continued to mount. I had enough time to get this story edited for the noon news and then I was sent to Hull for the Cash Dash where people can get their unclaimed money from the State of Illinois. The interesting thing was that KHQA had \$100 they didn't know about! I had to take the sports camera to this story so white balancing was a bit of a challenge. I didn't really get the lighting I wanted but it was good enough, fortunately.

Once I got back and edited that story, I found that two others awaited me. One was for the Cheerful Home children school's new logo and name, and the other was a Harry Potter Celebration at a local library. It was getting so close to time for the evening news by the time I got back that Steven edited the Harry Potter story for me. I was rushing around so much! Fortunately all four stories made their way to the evening news. I spent extra time re-doing them for the late news (which I have to do for every story), but since they were all vo-sots with one vo, it wasn't too time consuming.

7/21/05 Thurs. Day 26***9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Mosquitoes, Heat and water**

Jim said they would be short staffed today so he asked me to come in today and take Friday off. It turned out that there wasn't a whole lot to do anyway. And the one story I did do, I had trouble with my white balancing again! Jim wanted me to talk to the head of Quincy's central services about how there is a lack of mosquito problems because the weather is so dry. When I interviewed the guy, I was in very bright room, yet I wasn't outdoors so it was difficult to figure out the lighting. It really didn't turn out very well but it got on the air anyway. It wasn't awful, just a strange looking video.

Later on Jim was trying to make a story out of the heat and lack of rain and how that affects the water supply. I called around to several area water plants and found that it wasn't really an issue, but I went to Quincy's plant just to get some video of what they do this time of year. I'd never been in a water plant before so this was kind of interesting. After I edited that story I was done for the day.

7/25/05 Mon. Day 27***9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Afghanistan Vet*, Puppy dies of heat exhaustion**

Today I was sent to Macomb for a couple of stories. Jim wanted me to do a story on an insurance agent from Macomb who had gone away on duty to Afghanistan. It turned out that I actually knew this person! So I set up an interview and headed to Macomb for an interview. He was also able to email me some pictures which the control room converted to video tape. This way I could edit these into my story since I obviously wouldn't have a lot of video since I wasn't in Afghanistan to see what was going on. Anyway, I got the interview done and then Jim wanted me to stop by the animal shelter in Macomb to see about a puppy that had died of heat exhaustion.

Well it turned out that the guy he set me up to talk to wasn't around. Then finally when he did show up, he said he couldn't talk about this subject on the air because there was a particular person who had left their dog out and they were at fault so he didn't think he could give out any information about this on the news. So time was running really close so I had to change the tone of the story to hot weather animal tips. I just had the guy who was there answer some questions and got some video of pets outside.

So now I had to speed back to Quincy to be able to get all this edited. The package alone was going to take me awhile so luckily the other intern didn't have anything to do so she edited the animal story for me. I felt like I was the only person rushing around the newsroom, trying to get the website pictures converted to video and into my story. Luckily I got it all done with a little (very little) time to spare. Carol looked over the story and really liked it! She thought it was great. So I was glad that all the rushing around paid off. The veteran ended up wanting a copy of the story for himself!

7/27/05 Wed. Day 28***9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Microfilm, Trails program grants**

Today didn't end up being a very busy day. I just ended up having two vo-sots to do and both were in the Quincy area. The Microfilm story was about how the Adams County courthouse was trying to start preserving important documents. So I talked to one of the people in charge and got some video of the process. It was rather tricky to do, however, because it was a dim room with a lighted microfilm machine so some of my video was a little dark, but I was able to pick out enough good parts.

Later in the afternoon Jim sent me to talk to a woman about a grant that was given by the state of Illinois for something called the Trails program. South of Quincy there is a park-type area called Camp Sacajawea so I got the directions and went out there to get some video. There was a closed gate so I had to get creative and shoot through the bars. Then I went back to the studio with plenty of time to get it edited for 6 and 10. Sometimes I forget to say it, but every story I do has to be re-edited if it's a package, or re-written if it's a vo-sot. So that's just one extra step that sometimes keeps me there a little later.

7/28/05 Thurs. Day 29***9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Tourism Spending, 5th Street Project, Entrepreneur networking, Culver-Stockton gifts**

This was another busy four story day. All of them were in Quincy except for the one at Culver Stockton College in Canton, MO. Basically as soon as I arrived at the station I was out the door to talk to a woman about the increase in tourism spending, especially in Adams and Hancock counties. I was able to use some file video of a special outdoor event to illustrate what she was talking about. While I was at that story which was at the civic center, I got a call from Jim who said there was an entrepreneur networking breakfast also in the civic center. So I went down to the lobby and sure enough it was full of people. Luckily I was able to catch some video before everyone was heading out. I ended up talking to a man who was Barak Obama's political advisor and he gave me his card and said he knew a lot of people in the news in the Springfield area. So that was an interesting experience.

Also after that I was supposed to stop by 5th street in Quincy around the square where some improvements were being made on the street. This was just a v-o so I didn't need an interview, but the other two were vo-sots. After that I went back to the studio and started editing all of these, and I think one of them was even done soon enough to make the noon news. After all that, I actually had time to grab lunch, and finished re-writing one of the stories for 10. All of a sudden Carol runs over and says she forgot to tell me that I have to go to Culver Stockton to interview the president

about some record setting alumni gift. So I barely had enough time to get there, and in my rush to leave, I forgot a gear bag so I had no microphone. (I was about halfway to Canton). Therefore I had to go back to the studio for a gear bag, and I also had to re-set the meeting time with the president. Fortunately, that was no problem and it all ended up working out.

By the time I was finished, it was about 4:30, but this story wasn't supposed to air until Friday, so I didn't have to hurry too much once I got back to the station. I got everything edited and re-cut and was definitely ready for the weekend to come.

8/1/05 Mon. Day 30***9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Big Fish***

Today was an interesting day. Jim was setting me up to do just a normal story about dental exams or something like that, and he also asked me to call this person who left a message at the station about a 55 pound catfish to see if that was the real deal. About an hour later we get a call back at the station, and it really was true! Even more impressive, it was caught by a 13 year old girl! So Jim had me give my dental story to Elizabeth and I headed out to Clayton (not too far away) to talk to this man and his daughter about the fish she caught.

They actually still had the fish on ice! They were able to hang it up so I could get some video of what it really looked like. I was able to get some great interviews from both of them as well as a couple other guys who were around to see what happened. Once I got back to the station I began putting together my package on this, which turned out to be pretty humorous. It ended up playing on the late news, and I was glad because I'd have time to get home and see it. Carol was really happy with this piece because I was able to connect the writing with the video. It's really fun to do a story like that now and then.

8/3/05 Wed. Day 31***9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Armed Robbery, New Hyundai Dealership, MODOT developments******PROFESSOR MCGAAN COMES TO VISIT***

Around 11:00 Professor McGaan came to visit the station and talk to Carol, so Jim tried to give me stories I could get done before he came. The night before there had been an armed robbery at a gas station in town so he sent me to get some video of the station. Even though I had to take the sports camera, I was able to easily go and get that done, and also get back to the station to edit it for the noon news. Also for the noon news as well as for 6, I ran down the street to Dene Lambkin Honda where they had the groundbreaking for the new Hyundai dealership. So I got back to the station with that story and soon after Professor McGaan stopped by and I showed him around the studio. He also talked to Carol and I worked on my Hyundai vo-sot.

As the day went on Elizabeth had compiled some stories in Hannibal so I went with her and took one of them off her hands. A couple of senators and representatives were in town so we actually got to meet them, and in the meantime I talked to a Missouri Department of Transportation leader about what was going on with the new highway. (That was basically what the whole press conference was about). We were barely able to get back in time to get all this edited, but fortunately we got it all done.

8/5/05 Fri. Day 32***9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Marion County Beef Show, Bridge opening, Canton school supplies giveaway**

Today Elizabeth and I went together to get several different stories. The Marion County Fair was going on so Jim wanted some video of what was happening, which turned out to be the beef show. It was sort of a messy setting but I was able to get some video of the cows, and got an interview with a little kid about what he was doing. After that we headed way out in the middle of nowhere to get some video of this bridge that was opening after it had been one lane and was shut down for some time after an accident. So there was a ceremony for that and we had a brief interview with a MoDOT person about this. So those were my two vo-sots and then we headed up to Canton so Elizabeth could do her story about a school supplies giveaway in Canton. Afterwards we made it back to the studio with plenty of time to edit and re-cut the pieces for 10.

8/8/05 Mon. Day 33***9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Back to school buying***

This story turned out to be one of my favorite packages that I was assigned. It involved me going to the Quincy Wal-Mart, picking up a random school's supply list, and checking out all the items to see what the average list amounted to. This was sort of time consuming, but it was the only story I had and it was in Quincy so I could afford to take my time. After I got the items totaled up and shot a stand-up by the checkout isle, I went around the store to get some quick interviews to see what different people were getting for back to school. I talked to some little kids, a mom, and also a worker that dealt with the school supply area. I loved this story so much because I got to be really creative with the editing and worked in some great natural sound like the items being run across the scanner. This was one of my longer packages but I was happy with how it turned out. Rajah and Carol both told me that my writing was really well done, so I felt great about this one.

8/10/05 Wed. Day 34***9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Deputies shop with kids*, Quincy mall floor renovations, Dry weather's effect on corn crop***

Today I actually got to go with Chad to do one of my stories! He is a genius when it comes to camera work so I knew the package was going to work out well. It was another school supplies story, but this time it was about how these deputies in Adams County were shopping with these kids who maybe couldn't afford all the supplies they need. I really enjoyed this story, and it was in K-Mart, not Wal-Mart so that added some variety. So after this we went to the Quincy mall so Chad could shoot his package on the floor renovations that are being made. Then we headed back to the station, got things edited, and I found out that I had yet another package to do that afternoon. It consisted of an interview with Mike Roegge about the status of the corn crop in this dry weather. I was able to get nice stand-ups in each of these packages, and one went at 6 and the other at 10 so I was on the news quite a bit today! I was very happy with how they both worked out.

8/11/05 Thurs. Day 35***9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.*****Stories of the day: Why are gas prices so high?* Man on the street interviews**

Today was a fun day. I did a story about the high gas prices in Macomb because it involved interviewing a professor at Western. So I stopped by a gas station to do a stand-up, talk to someone for an interview, and get some video. After that I headed back to Quincy and stopped by a gas station there to get what are called man on the street interviews. These aren't part of the package I'm doing, but they are like a little side-story. So basically I just went to a gas station, waited for people to come by and asked if I could talk to them about the high gas prices. I easily got 4 quick interviews so I had time to get back to the studio to edit. I liked the way the story turned out, and it ended up being the top story on the news along with the gas prices and man on the street interviews.

8/13/05 Sat. Day 36***6:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.*****Stories of the day: 4 car accident with fatality******FIRST TIME GOING LIVE ON THE NEWS!***

So this evening I was planning to go to the station just to get my stories compiled on a tape, and also to do some sample anchoring that I could take with me before my last day. I was on the way to the station when I got a call from Stephen on my cell phone (he knew I was coming), and he said there had been a huge accident around Canton, MO and he would need me to go out and cover what was going on with that. Tegan was also going to do the story but she would need someone else with her so I went. So my evening just took a different twist! It was really rainy and bad outside so I figured I wouldn't be doing my anchoring today. But this was an interesting story. So when I got back to the station Stephen, who produces the weekend shows, decided that I could go live from the newsroom for the late newscast with this story. It was the top story on the news! So this was even better than getting my stories on tape and doing anchoring for fun, since this was real! I didn't get home until late but it was an awesome experience, and I have something to show for it. (I ended up compiling my stories and doing some anchoring on the following Saturday)

8/15/05 Mon. Day 37

9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Stories of the day: Good help is hard to find*, Historic murals

**MY LAST (normal) DAY@*

So today was my last official day at KHQA, and I was pretty sad about that. I went with Elizabeth to Louisiana, MO for a couple of stories. She did one on a historic mural that was being painted, and I did a package on a company that makes model trains. They were looking for more workers, and when they gave the potential employees a drug test, they all came back positive for drugs! This story seemed interesting so Jim sent me to cover it. We ended up getting a total tour of the place, I got to put little wheels on a train for my stand-up, and I got a great interview. So we hustled back to the station to get these edited, and at 3 Carol had planned a going away ice cream party for the two of us. Everyone at the station stopped in to join us, so that was really nice. Afterward I finished editing my story, and my parents came down to see the station and watch the evening news from the studio. They really enjoyed it, and I was glad that they got to get a glimpse of the awesome experience I was having all summer.

8/20/05 Sat. Day 38 (unofficial)

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Compiled stories on a tape, did some anchoring from the teleprompter for fun