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6:30 - 10 p.m.  
292 MSC  
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Questions? Call Maryam or Shida at 862-2525

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Don't let Switch-off For Kick-off  
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Take your date dancing at  
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\$1 off  
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C & W DANCE LESSONS  
BEGINNING: Learn the basics - 2-Step, Polka, Waltz, & Jitterbug.  
Dates: Nov. 8, 15, 22, & 29 --- Time: 7:15 p.m.  
Dates: Nov. 9, 16, 23, & 30 --- Time: 7:30 p.m.  
ADVANCED: Add style with Swing - Learn the Whip, Lariat, & More.  
Dates: Nov. 8, 15, 22, & 29 --- Time: 8:45 p.m.  
Dates: Nov. 10, 17, 23, & Dec. 1 - Time: 7:30 p.m.  
WHERE: Jazzercise COST: \$20/Student, \$22/Non-student  
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**Federal Pell Grant system under investigation**

**The Associated Press**  
WASHINGTON — The government's main aid program for students after high school is being robbed of millions of dollars by schools that provide little job training or obtain grants fraudulently from lax managers, congressional investigators testified Wednesday.  
The so-called Pell grant program provides 4.1 million students \$6.3 billion in grants this year to attend universities, colleges and vocational schools.  
The Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations found orthodox Jewish schools in New York City had become "Pell grant mills," existing primarily to reap federal tuition aid dollars.  
Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga., said the hearings produced "a good deal

of information that needs to be sent to the Department of Justice" for criminal investigation.  
One school, Bais Fruma in Brooklyn, "is enrolling entire families and entire neighborhoods into its program," said subcommittee counsel Alan Edelman.  
Since becoming eligible for Pell grants in 1983, the school has collected \$22.4 million.  
Of 2,000 students at the school in 1991-92, 97 percent got Pell grants, the investigators said. Most got the maximum, \$2,400.  
Some 530 families had at least two members getting grants. One family had nine members at the school on Pell grants.  
Edelman cited records showing that one student, Sara Hoffman, got Pell grants to attend Bais Fruma and three other New York-area schools.

When investigators questioned her, she said she had never enrolled at Bais Fruma or one of the other schools.  
Bais Fruma's file on the woman included various forms bearing her apparently forged signatures, Edelman said.  
He said the school schemed to get federal dollars to subsidize religious study that religious members of the community would normally participate in anyway.  
The school also used at least one broker to generate Pell grant applications, he said.  
Files of 33 Bais Fruma students were found when authorities raided the office of broker Jacob Ginzburg. All got Pell grants.  
Ginzburg has since fled the country, Edelman testified.  
Bank and school records showed large payments to other

orthodox Jewish institutes, congregations, he said.  
He said it appears Pell grants have been used by the Orthodox Jewish movement "to funnel federal funds to various religious institutions which otherwise would be ineligible to receive federal aid."  
George Meissner, an attorney for the school who was in the audience at the hearing, called the hearing "a one-sided presentation, with interpretations by people who are jumping to conclusions based on raw material."  
He said the school provided records to the subcommittee investigators never presented Wednesday's allegations the school could respond. "This is definitely not the whole story," he said.

**University of Texas-Pan American receives preliminary approval for doctorate program**

**The Associated Press**  
AUSTIN — Border education opportunities got a boost Thursday from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, which gave preliminary approval to two doctoral programs at the University of Texas-Pan American.  
An international business degree would be the first doctorate ever granted by the Edinburg University under one proposal, which includes a working relationship with the flagship UT-Austin.  
The board also endorsed a cooperative doctoral program in educational administration. That degree would be granted by UT-Austin but offered through the Edinburg campus, where officials in the future hope to take over the program.  
Both proposals are up for final approval Friday.  
"It is a challenge ... We have

to prove that we can meet the challenge," UT-Pan American President Miguel Nevarez said of the new programs. "Obviously, we're going to work our hearts out."  
"It's going to take funds, and it's going to take hard work. It's that simple," he said.  
The business doctorate, which previously has received development funding, is estimated to cost \$4.6 million over five years.  
The education degree has a projected five-year cost of \$2.8 million.  
Higher education officials have said they'll keep working to enhance border education programs even though the Texas Supreme Court recently overturned a lower court ruling that the current system denies Mexican Americans on the border equal education opportunity.  
Merging the Edinburg university with the UT system several years ago was part of the ef-

fort to upgrade border programs.  
In endorsing the business degree, the Coordinating Board said it will evaluate the program's future success before considering additional doctoral degree-granting authority for UT-Pan American.  
Officials said they didn't mean that provision as a threat, but a signal of the program's importance.  
Although some have expressed concern about the proposal, which includes a business administration major and international business program, Nevarez said cooperation with UT-Austin will help make it a success.  
The proposal includes a mentor relationship between the Edinburg and Austin faculties, and Nevarez said technology will allow UT-Pan American to take advantage of the larger school's superior library facilities.

**Fires continue spreading in California**

**The Associated Press**  
LAGUNA BEACH, Calif. — Stubborn strips of fire zigzagged through Southern California on Thursday as cool breezes helped firefighters ground against a firestorm that destroyed nearly 600 homes and burned 116,000 acres.  
A procession of fire raged through the smoke into Laguna Beach, the posh coastal resort. Orange County half-gutted a wall of flame that destroyed more than 300 homes.  
Authorities blocked the Pacific Coast Highway, allowing residents to return only on foot on a cycle.  
Hundreds of people abandoned their cars to make the drive. "It's just total devastation," John McMurray said as he used a shovel to poke through debris that was once his home. "This neighborhood is burnt. We haven't been able to salvage anything."  
Valerie Coleman dabbed her face with a towel as she watched smoke rise from the remains of the apartment she lost Wednesday.  
"I have nothing," she said.  
President Clinton declared disasters in five counties and federal agencies organized help for the displaced. Police hunted the arsonists responsible for some of the fires and patrolled neighborhoods to prevent looting.  
Cool sea breezes signaled the end to the hot, dry Santa Ana condition that on Wednesday started 13 blazes into firestorms in Ventura County, north of Los Angeles, to the U.S.-Mexico border. The gusty winds blow through Southern California every year from the deserts east of Los Angeles.  
A growing army of firefighters seized the chance to steadily circle the fires.  
Some of the fires raged out of control; others were partially contained; few of the fires threatened more residences.

**Senate debates three days, OKs extra unemployment benefits**

**The Associated Press**  
WASHINGTON — The Senate approved extra unemployment benefits Thursday for 1 million Americans who have been jobless for half a year, but the bill will not reach President Clinton until at least next week.  
After three days of debate, senators approved the \$1.1 billion measure 76-20. The bill would allow up to 13 weeks of extra benefits for people who have used up the standard 26 weeks of coverage.  
About 60,000 Americans run out of the standard benefits each week, and it has been nearly a month since extra emergency benefits expired.  
Voting for the bill were 52 Democrats and 24 Republicans; two Democrats and 18 Republicans were opposed.  
Senators added two amendments to the measure that were not in the version approved by the House on Oct. 15.  
That meant the bill had to return to that chamber before it could be sent to Clinton for his signature.  
House Democrats said they had not decided if they would accept the Senate's changes or demand

they be dropped. The House did not plan to work on the measure until at least Wednesday.  
"It certainly doesn't expedite the process," House Ways and Means Chairman Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill., said through a spokesman.  
The Senate added one amendment Thursday that would lock in the 252,000-employee reduction Clinton has proposed for the federal work force.  
The provision, proposed by Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, was approved 82-14.  
Another amendment, adopted Wednesday night, would prohibit extended benefits to unemployed people who reported taxable incomes above \$120,000 last year.  
Democrats traditionally have opposed setting income limits for many benefit programs.  
Sen. Hank Brown, R-Colo., that amendment's sponsor, said it would save \$2 million and affect 26,500 people.  
In the day's first vote, the chamber rejected language by Sens. Don Nickles, R-Okla., and Richard Shelby, D-Ala., that would have required approval by 60 senators for any future retroactive tax increases. The vote was 56-40.

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