

Corpus Christi Caller-Times
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 A-11

✓ Sunday Sun Times

Cavazos rebuffs rumors of his leaving office

By Tamara Henry
 AP EDUCATION WRITER

WASHINGTON - Education Secretary Lauro Cavazos insisted Friday that "I'm the right person for the job" and said that his management style has no place for "shouting and carrying on."



Cavazos

"If this secretary of education can move this nation into thinking about what it must do in the coming decade about education, what difference does it make whether you have someone who shouts, yells, screams and tears their shirt?" Cavazos said.

The education secretary tried to put to rest rumors of his impending departure from the Education Department during an interview Friday on *The Learning Channel*.

President Bush, he said, has been very supportive.

"Never once, never once has the president expressed dissatisfaction at the way I'm doing my job or the quality of work that is coming out of this department," said Cavazos.

Criticisms of Cavazos focus mainly on his unwillingness to argue for raising federal education spending and to use his office as a "bully pulpit," as did his flamboyant predecessor, William Bennett.

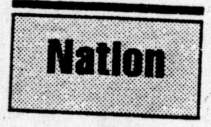
Since his first day in office, Cavazos' professorial style, which he said evolved through many years of increasing achievement and responsibilities as dean of a medical school and president of Texas Tech University, has been compared with that of Bennett.

Cavazos said he has begun the huge effort it will take to restore America's educational system to greatness. He is convinced that schools will improve once parents are given a choice of where to send their children to school, local school officials are allowed to manage their own affairs and alternative methods are used to certify some teachers.

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By Michael Wines
 NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Federal-law-enforcement officials in Washington said Friday that an Israeli linked to Colonel



an drug traffickers found slain in Miami Wednesday

had been under the scrutiny of at least three U.S. government agencies in the weeks before his death.

One of those agencies, the Secret Service, said it was monitoring the Miami police inquiry into the killing.

And one federal official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the 39-year-old victim, Arik Afek, acknowledged to government investigators that he had provided paramilitary training in Colombia, although he denied

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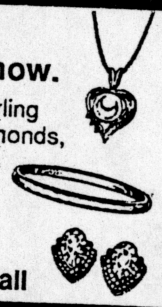
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