THE BATTALION Page 12

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## **Teacher group to back Carter**

United Press International AUSTIN — The president of the Texas State Teachers Association said Wednesday President Carter clearly has a better record in education than Ronald Reagan and the teacher organization will support the incumbent.

"We're convinced that our mem-bers will make a difference in the upcoming election," said Dora Scott. And we feel certain that our legislative package will get the support it needs next year." Scott said TSTA also was endors-

ing 109 other candidates in Texas, but this was the first time the educator group has backed a presidential candidate.

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She said the Texas Educators Political Action Committee, TSTA's poli-tical arm, had decided to endorse Carter in October 1979 and that decision was reaffirmed in September.

'Our support for the Carter-Mondale ticket and the 109 other candidates around Texas is a logical outgrowth of TSTA's longtime parti-cipation in politics," Scott said. "We know that political participation is the only way to lay a foundation for the betterment of teachers' profes-cipation lives." sional lives.

Scott also said President Carter had kept a 1976 campaign promise to create a cabinet-level Department of Education, while Reagan proposes

**89¢** 

to abolish the office if elected. The TSTA president said the organization also was pushing a four-

ing proposal has already been d will we judged and threatened with any their les Gov. (Bill) Clements before we Archbish point legislative program for the 1981 Legislature to consider when it have a chance to give it a tate convenes in January hearing. The program calls for a 33 percent increase for teacher salaries, due

process and fair dismissal procedures for public school employees, group health insurance which would be similar to that provided other state employees and collective bargaining mittees rights for teachers.

We feel that we are within sight of winning on all counts," Scott said. "We have these positive feelings

Scott said TSTA members n the Unit work to get Carter and the othe "Neither candidates the group end eject or ch elected. She said the teacheren contract "Nei zation would mount door-to-

even though our collective ball

canvasses and set up telephone re calling "By backing pro-education of dates, we're supporting the fun-the country. We invite all Ten e Mo

join with us in our cause.

Use of penicillin

further

S

Bi

might aid infants BOSTON — Penicillin given to babies within an hour after bundern fan may reduce the incidence of serious infections but might open the cardinal for other bacterial diseases resistant to the antibiotic, doctors report urch's 19 Wednesday.

A two-year study of 18,738 infants found strong indications t penicillin reduces "Group B streptococcal" infections, which occur up to three of every 1,000 live births and are fatal about 50 percent the time.

Researchers at the University of Texas Health Science Center Dallas said they are continuing the study to determine whether the can prevent the infections without unleashing a Pandora's Box of the WOIT diseas

Chief Investigator Jane Siegel said penicillin reduced Group streptococcal infections and did not increase other diseases during year of the study reported this week in the New England Joural Medicine.

But she pointed out that during the team's first year of research, the ntries th

But she pointed out that during the team's first year of research, i <sup>Duntries</sup> th treatment increased the appearance of bacteria not affected by pendag fighting lin while it did very little to stop Group B infections. If a 10 p In a telephone interview, Siegel conceded the results were controduction p dictory and said doctors should proceed with caution. If a stop official at tion, but it should not be used on a wide basis at present because at Agency n have not ruled out that there is an adverse effect, " she said. If a sk uwa She suggested penicillin could be used "as a temporary measure", mited Arab prevent Group B streptococcal infections in a limited way, "but not diverse at the state is a site and the state of the st a widespread basis.

"We certainly don't want to trade off one disease for another," \*said.

Group B streptococcal infections can cause "early onset syndrom which can occur in the first 24 hours of an infant's life, bringing will respiratory distress or pneumonia. Babies may go into shock or velop meningitis.

Bacteria that are resistant to penicillin include Escherichia col normally harmless bacterium that occupies the human intestine can, however, cause infections that are especially hard to treat infants.

Doctors were studying use of penicillin, Siegel said, because of the danger involved in Group B streptococcal diseases and the accident discovery in 1975 that the antibiotic seemed to protect babies from the infection

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