## Aggie campaign manager.

avily in the Mowery campaign m beginning to end. "We ran dry veral weeks ago," he said, "and shad to come up with the money

t was strange to find a campaign nad no desire to enter politics as

try to make my beliefs a paign.

o, when Mowery approached for the job during his '77 istmas vacation, Darbyshire said ad to think of school first.

shire met Mowery at Texas M, and he met Mowery's wife at National Republican Conven-in Kansas City where they both delegates. Through the actance, Darbyshire said, ery asked him to serve as cammanager during the '78 spring

byshire said he decided to his spring semester first and ith the campaign as much as

hat was a disaster," he said. campaign was always on his

— "like a disease it grows on he said, and his grades suf-

stayed out of school during ummer and the fall '78 semesfirst working in Fort Worth as overall campaign manager. funds grew tight and he asked transferred to College Station e he felt he could be more use At that point Mowery split his aign into three districts.

esides learning about people, he med about himself. The 13-hour taught Darbyshire about

also had a chance to view politics from the inside. He dabout the effect of money on aigns. He said that in apathetic aigns like this one, media play ter role than in elections people are keyed up.

also learned the problems of g with national party headrs. Though he was sent to the week-long campaign manminar, other help from the nal Republican Committee

rbyshire said the benchmark were useful tools. In addition lying the polls, he said he

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spent time analyzing past voting fact, money seemed to weigh records and patterns, examining them precinct by precinct. In addition, Darbyshire said one of the GOP's field men suggested using a GOP's field men suggested using a polling firm run by a former member of the RNC. was not always a help. He had flow charts and tables outling what everybody needed to do and when.

was strange to find a campaign "They play a little game called ager who was not a hard-bitten going to Washington D.C. and if fessional. Though Darbyshire they want you to hire a consultant, president of the College Repubyou should hire the one they as at Texas A&M '75-76, he said suggest."

He said Mowery's campaign may have run afoul of the RNC by disre-It's a hobby of mine," he ex- garding their advice in hiring a dif-"I get interested in issues, ferent consultant later in the cam-

It's funny that the Republican

But he was wrong.
"One old boy in Robertson County...I laid out all these charts and it blew his mind. He said, 'There's no way I can do this.'

I scared him off, maybe others he recalled with a smile. Darbyshire slouched in a chair in

party cries about bureaucracy but

has one themselves," he remarked.

with an engineering background

to know exactly what they were get-

ting into," he said.

Darbyshire said being a student

the empty campaign headquarters. Behind a partition was a bank of phones and on a coffee table were unused bumper stickers and litera-ture. "Aggies for Wes Mowery," one bumper sticker read.

Darbyshire unplugged the television set and the radio and prepared I thought everyone would want to go home. His career as a campaign manager was over, and he said he was going to finish working on his master's degree in business.

Earlier in the evening, he uttered the quintessential Aggie comment on the night's outcome: "We we-ren't beaten," he said with a tired smile, "we just got outvoted."



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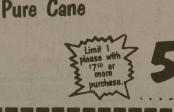
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