Molly Johnson
January 18, 1979

Sweet Briar News, Vol. 1, No. 11.
Both actual newspapers and
microfilm housed in Room 2 of
Sweet Briar Archives, Right Side,
second shelf.

The basic purpose of the Sweet
Briar News is to record campus
news. It is written by and for
the students. Through this paper, they
can publish their views as well as
express their views.

Topics mainly deal with the
campus. Articles such as elections,
honor, sporting news, and gossip.
An interesting pattern occurs when
the focus of the paper shifts towards
more world news. This happens
during the 1940's and again in the
late 1950's. There could be a
correlation between wars and the
students' interest in more world
news issues.
Evaluation

The Sweet Briar News is a very good source of information. Unlike some publications, such as the handbills, the newspaper reflects what it was really like, not what it was supposed to be like. It shows the way students have changed through the years by the changes in the subjects of the articles.

One must keep in mind that a pattern of ideas can be detected in the newspaper articles. Because the paper is written by and for the students, it expresses strictly the students' point of view. Also, a newspaper often contains articles dealing with something that at the time seems strange or unusual and therefore cannot be used to judge the common attitude of the students.