

the leaf

The Voice of Sycamore

By: Laura Eastes

A BIT OVERJOYED ON DEADLINE DAY. April Wang, 11, and Susie Shutts, 11, finish up the mini mag for one of the issues. Each month a mini mag was produced and was inserted into the newspaper. Topics of the mini mag ranged from Battle of the Bands to College bowl games.



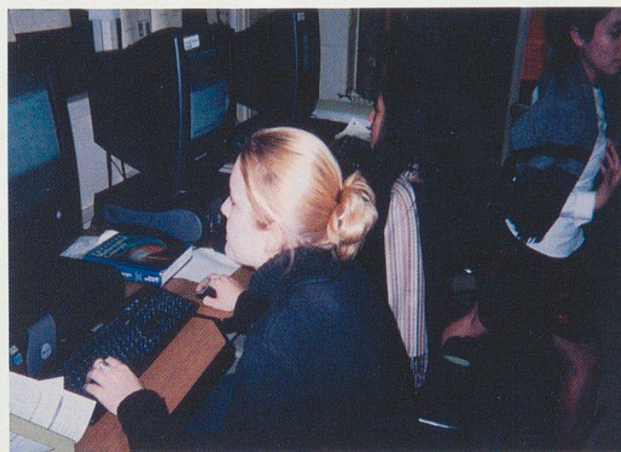
AN AWARD WINNING STUDENT NEWSPAPER flooded the halls on distribution days. From world wide news to facial hair features, the *Leaf* covered it all and left no stone unturned.

Seventy -six students from every grade, every sport, and every activity came together each day to produce a newspaper each month. *The Leaf* covered every area of the school including student life, news, opinion, editorial, feature, sports, spotlight and a mini magazine on various topics each month.

"Newspaper for me had been like one continuous ego-booster. It's one thing to just write, but to be recognized and congratulated for my work by people I hardly know is an amazing feeling," said Amy White, 11.

The Leaf was a stepping stone for many students into journalism. Corrie van Amerongen, 12, and April Wang, 11, were finalist for the Earnest Hemingway Award from the Kansas City Star in the feature category. Wang also won a paid internship for *Crossroads* magazine at Ball State University for the summer.

The Leaf staff worked very hard each month to produce a newspaper over 40 pages. But even after long hours on deadline days, the *Leaf* staff always came back for more with new ideas on next month's issue. *The leaf* won GLIPA's Buckeye, CSPA's Gold Medalist, NHSPA All American and numeros OPW awards as well.



TAKEN THE PAPER TO BED. Corrie Van Amerongen, 12, worked extra hard as editor and chief to finish the paper each deadline. As editor in chief she was in charge of editing all the pages, coming up with a story ladder as well as making sure the staff completed their articles every month and that thousands of dollars in ad revenue were secured.