

PUBLICATION at its best

It never stops. The hustle bustle the creation of *The Leaf* requires is an extreme amount of work that the staff of seventy-eight students achieve not once, but twice a month. With an overwhelming increase in staff members the class had to be changed to four separate bells. The Columbia Scholastic Press Association gold medal paper is anywhere from twenty to thirty-six pages. It is the staff members jobs to be the voice of the school in covering all aspects from sports, school issues, and even world issues. One of the hardest jobs that any of the staff members face is being the editor and chief. This job requires the constant dedication to the newspaper, **Zach Fox, 12**, was able to give.

"The most enjoyable part of being editor was having the responsibility of managing so many people. My personal reward was seeing the students reactions," said Fox.

Besides the creative aspect of being a staff member there was also a very difficult side that helped teach the staff members the importance of funding their paper. The staff members were required to sell ads in order to aid the publication of *The Leaf*. All of the ad sales, and subscriptions were managed by **Corrie Van Amerongen, 11**. Within the staff, there were individual editors for each page and topic that would be covered in the issues. Those editors were in charge of looking over their respective pages for any mistakes that the staff writers might have made accidentally. Approximately forty-five percent of the staff were first year members.

"As a freshman in the class, I did not know what to expect. It was very rare not to be busy in the class, I always had something to do," said **Jordan Cohen, 9**.

Why join the newspaper? From the rewarding experience of being able to publish a newspaper, to creating friendships with the coworkers, being a member of *The Leaf* left many of the staff members with a difficult yet enjoyable job to face every day.

"The late nights where the adrenaline was pumping before deadline were the times you got to know the people you worked with. Those were the times I looked forward to," said **Ali Newton, 10**.

By Jennifer Fisher



"I took the class because I was considering doing journalism in the future."

Carly Sampson, 12

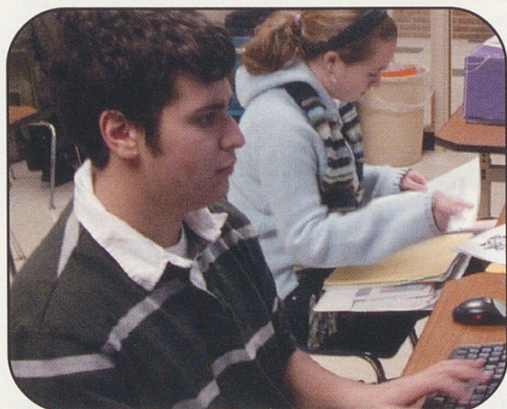
Folding, and Folding. Kimber Bertsch, 11, and April Wang, 10, worked together to be able to release the paper on time. After school there would always be many students working as hard as they could, and as quickly as they could to make the release date. It was very satisfying for the staff members to be able to see their final result and read their columns in the newspaper.



Getting by with a little help. Editor in chief, **Zach Fox, 12**, helped staff writer **Michael Bassin, 11**, with some questions that he had about the design layout of a page. Fox was enrolled in three out of the four newspaper bells to assist staff members. As an experienced staff member, Fox knew how to work and use many of the difficult computer programs that the staff were required to also learn.

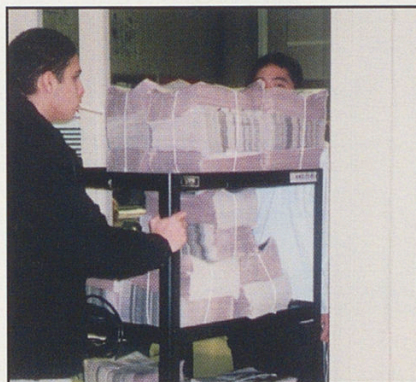


Getting the job done **Nichole Thompson, 12**, edits a page before it goes to press. The editors of *The Leaf* were key factors in making sure that the paper appeared the best possible upon distribution. The perfection of the staff helped earn them many prestigious awards. Even though *The Leaf* was an actual class period, many of the staff members stayed late countless nights, dedicating hours to the paper.



"I started out thinking that it was just something to boost my college applications but then I got into it and it began to actually mean something. It was a cool feeling."

Joel Frankel, 12



Rollin' them in. **Joe Barkawi, 11**, and **Michael Oshita, 11**, bring in the thousands of newspapers hot off the press. Once the newspapers were delivered the staff often stayed late at night to put together and fold the paper in the correct order. In total about twenty-three hundred papers were printed twice a month that were distributed to the student body, parents and different companies around the community.