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NEWS ::

## Middle School South raises money for SuperSibs

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A charity volleyball meet at Lake Zurich Middle School South raised \$460 March 13 for SuperSibs.

The event was part of the Student Council's latest project linking charity work to the One Book One School initiative. This year's book, *Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie*, is about a teenager facing life knowing his little brother is suffering from cancer.

The author of the book, Jordan Sonnenblick, supports the local charity SuperSibs, an organization that provides support to the siblings and families of cancer patients, said Rebecca Hanrahan, a teacher and a Student Council sponsor at Lake Zurich Middle School South, 435 W. Cuba Road.

"I recently went to this leadership conference ... and I wanted to use skills I learned at the conference and apply them to the school," said Vanesa Abad, an eighth-grader on the girl's volleyball team who came up with the idea for the meet, which pitted the girl's teams against the boy's teams.

Middle School South purchased yellow T-shirts, much like the one pictured on the novel's cover, with the goal of having every student and teacher purchase the shirt for \$5, to wear when the author visits the school March 27. Money from T-shirt sales will benefit SuperSibs, Hanrahan said.

To date, the school has raised \$2,600 from T-shirt sales, said Cindy Milone, a teacher and volleyball coach at MSS.

"I think it's a great way for people to have fun and do something for a great cause," said Jake Gadomski, an eighth-grader on the boy's volleyball team. Gadomski was diagnosed with leukemia on March 5, 2004. Although he's finished with the treatment and is now on a maintenance program which will only require yearly check ups, he remembers what it was like for his younger brother, who got involved in SuperSibs.

"I really think its great," Gadomski said of the organization. "When I was sick, I was obviously getting a lot of attention and I think it is great to have something for siblings."

SuperSibs was created in October 2002 by Melanie Goldish, a mother of a pediatric cancer survivor.

<http://www.pioneerlocal.com/lakezurich/news/1482715,lz-charity-031709-s1.article>