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World's Largest Synchronized Swimming Event Takes Over Federal Way

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – The world's largest synchronized swimming competition got underway last weekend at the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center. The 2011 eSynchro Age Group Championships will run through July 2 and are being hosted by the Pacific Northwest Association of Synchronized Swimming.

Monday's action featured the finals of the solo, duet, trio and team events for the 11-12 Age Group. Today's crowned champion in the solo was **Arina Yu** from the La Mirada Aquabelles who scored a 131.421. Ohio Synchro's **Julia St. John** (130.300) and Walnut Creek's **Paulina Bouzos** (128.589) joined Yu on the medal stand.

In the duet, Yu teamed up with **Aivan Nguyen** for the top finish with a mark of 129.745. Walnut Creek's **Dana Drury** and **Daria Torba** grabbed second with a 128.874. Santa Clara's **Emily Anger** and **Jacklyn Luu** followed with a 128.178.

In the trio, Drury and Torba teamed up with **Lauren Simonelli** for the gold medal with a score of 129.977. La Mirada's Yu, Nguyen and **Claire Hyon** took home the silver medal (129.545) while Santa Clara's Luu, **Nicole Dzurko**, and **Michelle Xu** captured bronze with a 127.494.

In the team competition, Walnut Creek (130.843) claimed first place while Santa Clara's "A" Team (129.268) and "B" Team (122.561) followed.

The competition features up-and-coming junior athletes along with several reigning age group national champions. Swimmers will compete for titles in the solo, duet, trio and team events in four age groups: 11-12, 13-15, 16-17 and 18-19.

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The 2011 eSynchro Age Group Championships mark the fourth time the event has been held in Federal Way since 1996. It is estimated that the eight day competition will carry an estimated economic impact of \$1.3 million.

Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$7 (adults). Seniors (65+) and Youth (6-12) can purchase tickets for \$5. Children 5 and under are free.

Monday, June 27 - 11-12 Age Group Finals

Tuesday, June 28 - 13-15 Age Group Finals

Saturday, July 2 - 16-17 Age Group Finals

18-19 Age Group Finals

For more information, contact Taylor Payne at taylor@usasynchro.org.

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