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ANA Synchers take Bronze at Senior Zone Championships

The tiny town of Fairless Hills, PA was the scene of some tough competition last weekend as the ANA Synchers competed at the 2008 Senior Zone Championships. As is typical for this team, the Synchers rose to the challenge with the Senior team taking the bronze medal and the Junior team placing in the top ten.

Members of the senior squad were: Kelly Mahoney, Erica Potts and Jessica Mancini of Andover, Amber Blum of North Andover, Alison Andrews and Melissa Andrews of Chepachet, RI, Maggie Conlon of Methuen, and Claire Rudder of Sudbury. Junior Squad athletes included Sheila Cremin, Candace Ju and Emily Stone of Andover, and Rebecca Ely, Alison Ziel, Caitlyn McGregor, Laina Gray, and Alice Rogers of N. Andover.

In the soloists category ANA's Melissa Andrews took home a bronze medal and Jessica Mancini placed 6th for her solo. Both Andrews and Mancini scored enough points to qualify for Junior National Championships.

After three rounds of serious competition, a tango duet of Melissa Andrews and Maggie Conlon placed 4th in a very crowded duet event. Teammates Erica Potts and Claire Rudder fought their way to the top ten rank, and Caitlyn MacGregor and Alison Ziel placed lucky 13 – a terrific accomplishment for these young athletes.

A trio of Seniors, Kelly Mahoney and Alison Andrews along with Erica Potts had the best swim of the season and earned a score of 75.

In the figures category Melissa Andrews rounded out her incredible weekend by placing 6th in figures - an outstanding accomplishment at such a high caliber meet. Maggie Conlon also finished her day on top, by making the East Zone All Star team. This team is comprised of the top 16 swimmers in the zone meeting All Star requirements.

For information on upcoming events including the annual show held at the Andover/North Andover YMCA, April 26-27, find ANA Synchers online at www.anasynchers.org. To find out more about becoming a synchronized swimmer or coach, please contact head coach Eugenia Gillan at

978-886-7075 or at eugeniagillan@yahoo.com.

