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# ***Pyper ready for a title season***

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One of the top underrated prospects for the 2011 class is 6-foot-4 **Alex Pyper** from Chaparral high school in Scottsdale, Arizona. Pyper was a valuable member of the Firebird team that finished strong last season before falling to Boulder Creek in the 5A-II state championship game, held at Wells Fargo Arena on the campus of Arizona State University.



**Pyper has fine tuned his shot and is ready to fire.**

The loss is still fresh in Pyper's mind as he prepares for a final run at the championship.

"It is a championship. That is what we are thinking and that is what we are working for this season," stated Pyper at a recent fall league game.

Chaparral is loaded this year and is one of the favorites to take the division this year. The birds are have every offensive position covered and are strong at the shooting guard spot where Pyper plays.

He has good size and quickness for a shooter. What makes him so effective is his ability to catch and shoot at various spots on the floor. He has worked tirelessly on his quick release and he has also mastered coming off screens to knock down shots. He has excellent shooting range and can handle the ball well enough to back up the point guard if needed.

Pyper elected to bypass several local showcase events this fall to work on his game with his trainer and the Chaparral coaching staff. The areas that he targeted for improvement were ball handling and on the ball defense. He believes he has improved in both areas and is ready to show the state what he can do.

Pyper stated that his recruitment has picked up and he is starting to hear from D1 and D2 programs. Several coaches who have visited the campus of Chaparral High School to recruit other players have come away impressed with Pyper as well. He has received a couple of preferential walk on opportunities at the D1 level but much more is expected to come after a solid senior season.

Head coach **Aaron Windler** of Chaparral has acknowledged the value that Pyper brings to the team.

"He continues to get better every day. He works extremely hard in the classroom and on the court and we expect big things from him this season. He is the type of kid that any coach would love to have. I think Pyper will be very successful at the next level, both academically and from a basketball perspective," Windler said.

In addition to being a rising star in the 2011 class, Pyper is getting it done in the classroom. He currently has a 4.3 GPA at one of the top academic high schools in Arizona. The future is very bright for this high achieving student-athlete as he is just beginning to reap the benefits of his hard work.