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Firebaugh High School Boys' Basketball Team Makes School History, Wins CIF Championships, Advances to State

LYNWOOD, CA – Firebaugh High School's boys' basketball team has had a record-breaking season, earning the most wins in Falcon history and, after its 76-31 victory over Big Bear High School on Feb. 24, the team added another monumental title to their belt – CIF Southern Section Division 5A Champions.

The team now advances to the State Championships – which consists of five games – with the first round of the Division 5 State Championships against Coalinga High School taking place at 7 p.m. **Tuesday, Feb. 27** at Firebaugh High School.

"This year, our team came together as a family, a unit," Coach Stephon Price said. "Whenever you have a family, it takes time but once you get it together, it is magic. I want to thank our team for trusting me both on and off the court. I am so proud of all of them no matter what. We made history. We Baugh!"

After last year's 6-22 record, Firebaugh High welcomed Price, an established high school coach, to help rebuild the program, alongside promising freshmen, sophomores and returning student-athletes. Together, the team secured an 18-11 record and was named the San Gabriel Valley League Co-Champions alongside Gahr High School.

During the championship game, the Falcon's senior captain and 6-foot-8 post Teiahijo Gilpen dominated, leading with 22 points, 11 rebounds and three blocks, while sophomore and shooting guard Adrian De La Cruz scored 21 points and Aaron Banks, one of the three senior team captains and guard, had 17 points and 12 rebounds.

"Congratulations to our student-athletes on a record-breaking season and amazing display of teamwork, heart and tenacity during the CIF Championships," Superintendent Gudiel R. Crosthwaite, Ph.D. said. "No matter the result of tonight's game, you should be proud of your achievements. Good luck, Falcons!"

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

LUSD_CIFCHAMPIONSHIPS1: Firebaugh High School boys' basketball team celebrate their 76-31 win over Big Bear High School, clinching the CIF Southern Section Division 5A Championship title on Feb. 24. *Photo credit: Clutch Time*






LUSD_CIFCHAMPIONSHIPS2: Senior captain and guard Aaron Brown, left, head coach Stephon Price and senior captain Teiahijo Gilpen receive a plaque and t-shirts after winning the CIF Southern Section Division 5A Championship game on Feb. 24. *Photo credit: Clutch Time*

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- ★ *People of great character who inspire and lead by example* ★ *The instilling of courage to be creative* ★ *The transformative uses of technology*
- ★ *Safe and clean environments* ★ *The inclusion of all voices in our community through equity, access and justice*

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