

# **~PLAY@~Aiken vs Lima Senior Live High School Basketball Playoffs Game on March 11, 2026**

## **Aiken vs Lima Senior Live**

In the high-stakes world of Ohio high school basketball, few matchups promised as much explosive athleticism as the Lima Senior Spartans taking on the Aiken Falcons. On Wednesday, March 11, 2026, these two programs met in a pivotal OHSAA Division II District Semifinal at Springfield High School.



The game was a collision of cultures: Lima Senior's storied "Spartan Pride" and full-court havoc versus Aiken's gritty, Cincinnati-bred toughness.

The Backdrop: Powerhouse vs. Rising Force

Lima Senior (#1 seed in the district) entered the contest as a juggernaut. With a 21–4 record and a #14 ranking in the state, the Spartans were the clear favorites. Their season was defined by a relentless defensive system that forced turnovers in bunches, leading to a scoring average of over 80 points per game.

Aiken (#6 seed), while carrying a more modest 14–11 record, was widely considered one of the most dangerous "lower" seeds in the bracket. The Falcons survived a brutal Cincinnati Metro Athletic Conference (CMAC) schedule, which battle-hardened them for the postseason. Having already pulled off a double-digit upset in the previous round, Aiken arrived in Springfield with nothing to lose and a chip on their collective shoulder.

The Matchup at a Glance

Metric Lima Senior Spartans Aiken Falcons

Record 21–4 14–11

Points Per Game 80.7 70.8  
Style Full-court "havoc" press Physical man-to-man  
Key Player Noah Simpson (G) Chris Washington Jr. (G)  
Game Summary: Speed Meets Strength

The opening minutes were a whirlwind of transition play. Lima Senior looked to bury the Falcons early with their signature press, jumping out to a quick 12–4 lead. However, Aiken's backcourt, led by Chris Washington Jr., showed remarkable poise, breaking the trap and finding open shooters. First Half: A Track Meet

The first quarter ended with Lima Senior ahead 24–18, but the momentum shifted in the second. Aiken's Deandre Carr-Short became a force in the paint, using his size to snag offensive rebounds and earn second-chance points. The Falcons outscored the Spartans in the second frame, heading into the locker room trailing by just one point, 41–40. Second Half: The Spartan Surge

As they have done all season, Lima Senior made the necessary adjustments at halftime. They tightened their rotations and began targeting Aiken's primary ball-handlers. Junior guard Noah Simpson caught fire, hitting three triples in the third quarter alone.

By the start of the fourth, Lima Senior had built a 10-point cushion. Aiken made a valiant final push, cutting the lead to five with two minutes remaining, but the Spartans' depth proved too much. Lima Senior's bench outscored Aiken's 18–4, providing the fresh legs needed to close out a physical contest. Standout Performers

Noah Simpson (Lima Senior): Finished with a game-high 26 points, including 5 three-pointers. His perimeter shooting broke the back of the Aiken zone.

Chris Washington Jr. (Aiken): A heroic effort in defeat, recording 22 points, 10 assists, and 4 steals. He played nearly every minute of the game.

Amari Addy (Lima Senior): The "glue man" for the Spartans, tallying 14 points, 12 rebounds, and 8 assists in a near triple-double performance.

Deandre Carr-Short (Aiken): Dominant on the glass with 15 rebounds and 12 points, keeping the Falcons alive in the interior.

#### Final Score and Implications

Lima Senior Spartans: 84

Aiken Falcons: 74

With the win, Lima Senior advances to the District Final on Saturday, March 14, where they are scheduled to face the winner of the Winton Woods vs. Northmont matchup. For the Spartans, the victory keeps their "Road to Dayton" alive as they chase another state championship appearance.

For Aiken, the loss ends a season that proved they are a program on the rise. They pushed a top-5 team in Division II to the limit for four quarters, earning the respect of fans and coaches across the state. In 2026, the Aiken vs. Lima Senior clash wasn't just a game—it was a showcase of the elite talent and high-level coaching that defines Ohio high school basketball.