

~PLAY@! Central Dauphin vs Souderton Live Hs Boys Basketball Playoffs On 11, March 2026!!~

Port Allegany vs Sewickley Academy Live

In the high-pressure world of the PIAA Class 6A Boys Basketball State Tournament, the second round is where the contenders separate themselves from the field. On Wednesday, March 11, 2026, the Central Dauphin Rams and the Souderton Indians met at a neutral site—Hamburg Area High School—for a clash that defined grit and postseason resilience.



This was a classic "East vs. West" Pennsylvania matchup, featuring a Central Dauphin squad from District 3 that has spent the season as a top-five state powerhouse and a Souderton team from District 1 that has become the tournament's most dangerous giant-killer.

The Backdrop: A Study in Momentum

Central Dauphin (#1 seed in District 3) entered the contest with a staggering 25–4 record. The Rams, led by head coach Seth Leonard, have been a model of efficiency all season. They arrived in the second round following a commanding 64–45 victory over Pennsbury, a game in which their defensive rotations and perimeter shooting left no doubt about their championship aspirations.

Souderton (#4 seed in District 1) arrived with a more modest record but arguably more momentum. The Indians made national headlines just days prior when senior guard Marques Brown hit a heroic three-pointer with 10 seconds remaining to upset Archbishop Wood, 68–66. It was Souderton's first state playoff win since 2008, and they entered the Hamburg gym playing with "house money" and a chip on their shoulder.

Key Matchup Drivers

Feature	Central Dauphin Rams	Souderton Indians
Playstyle	Balanced / High-Efficiency	Gritty / Late-Game Poise
Defensive Look	Swarming Man-to-Man	Disciplined Zone / Traps
Impact Player	Jelani Easter (G/F)	Marques Brown (G)
Game Summary: A Defensive Masterclass		

The atmosphere inside the Hamburg gym was tight, with both fanbases traveling well. From the opening tip, it was clear that Central Dauphin intended to use their superior length to disrupt Souderton's rhythm.

First Half: The Chess Match

The Rams jumped out to an early 14–8 lead behind the play of 6'5" senior Jelani Easter, whose ability to finish at the rim and facilitate from the high post gave Souderton fits. However, the Indians remained composed. Relying on the same grit that carried them past Archbishop Wood, Souderton used a 2-3 zone to slow the game down, forcing Central Dauphin into long possessions.

By halftime, the Rams held a slim 30–25 lead. Souderton's Marques Brown kept the Indians within striking distance, hitting two crucial pull-up jumpers late in the second quarter to keep the Central Dauphin lead from reaching double digits.

Second Half: The Rams Pull Away

The third quarter proved to be the difference-maker. Central Dauphin's defensive pressure intensified, forcing three consecutive Souderton turnovers that led to transition layups. Junior guard Shakur Starling sparked a 10–2 run that pushed the Rams' lead to 45–32.

In the fourth quarter, Souderton attempted one final rally. They cut the lead to seven points with three minutes remaining behind a barrage of perimeter shots from Chanse Salone. But unlike the first round, there were no last-second heroics for the Indians. Central Dauphin showed veteran poise at the free-throw line, with Kyle Sucheski and Jelani Easter knocking down eight straight attempts to ice the game.

Standout Performers

Jelani Easter (Central Dauphin): Finished with 20 points, 9 rebounds, and 4 assists. His versatility was the key that unlocked Souderton's zone.

Marques Brown (Souderton): Led the Indians with 18 points. Though he couldn't replicate his buzzer-beater magic, his leadership was the heartbeat of the team.

Shakur Starling (Central Dauphin): Provided 14 points and 5 steals, spearheading the defensive effort that broke the game open in the third.

Chanse Salone (Souderton): Added 12 points and 3 steals, providing a much-needed spark off the bench.

Final Score and Implications

Central Dauphin Rams: 64

Souderton Indians: 51

With the win, Central Dauphin advances to the PIAA Class 6A Quarterfinals, moving one step closer to the ultimate goal in Hershey. For the Rams, the victory confirms their status as a legitimate state title contender—a team that can win with both high-flying offense and disciplined defense.