

Zach Edey- Purdue Boilermakers- 7 feet 4 inches-295 pounds- 21 years old- Senior

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Source: Justin Serresse- U19 Team Canada Men's Basketball Coach

The source was asked what is the most transferable skillset for Zach Edey? The source responded that the most transferable skillset for Edey is his rim protection, rebounding, and ability to finish. He has got amazing touch. He is also a good free-throw shooter and has got good touch overall. His touch is very good overall. The source finds that bigs that can finish, make their free-throws, and rim protect are obviously something that is going to be impactful at the next level. The source worries about Edey's defensive lateral quickness. This is the elephant in the room. Everybody is going to question this. The source personally thinks Edey is capable of adjusting to the NBA speed because he has shown that he is able to do it at the NCAA level first of all. It is not like he is a major liability at the NCAA. The source feels like Edey is quicker than what people like to make it seem. It is going to be an adjustment and the source thinks Edey is capable. He is probably going to have to give up late contested twos, but in terms of being able to contain the paint, protecting the paint, and adjusting to the speed and not getting blown by or giving up rim runs to the basket and lobs it is going to be an adjustment, but the source thinks Edey is capable. He is also going to have to be very savvy, meaning not biting for certain fakes and not rushing out. Right now, the source thinks it is more about Edey's duck ins meaning the ability to duck in, roll, duck in, and finish than his post ups. The source doesn't think any NBA team is going to draft or potentially sign Edey to be a post matchup presence, but he is capable of catching high, finishing high, rolling into space, and ducking in. If you switch on him and you duck in, he can be a weapon. He has got great hands. In the World Championship the source doesn't believe Edey missed a shot. He didn't miss a shot. The kid has amazing hands, can catch, is an inside big against athletes, and he is not afraid to demand the ball especially against smaller defenders. His ability to duck in, ask for the ball, and catch and finish is what he does for a living. This is what he has been doing at the NCAA level, so the source would see Edey as more of a guy where if teams want to switch, you have to empower him to be like you are going to throw him two duck ins and if you make you stay on the floor and if you don't then you know your coming back and this is going to be his role now. This would be the source's mentality if he was the coach.

The source was asked how Edey was being defended at the international level compared to how he will be defended on the NBA level? The source responded that at the NBA level, there is more athletes. Edey was dominant at the NCAA level. At the NBA level, he is going to see way bigger and way more athletic guys, so he is probably not going to be able to have the same impact. Most of the defense they saw was drop coverage and ice at the world. Anytime there was a mismatch or anytime he had the chance to duck in within the offense, he was excellent at it. For the source, this has to be one of Edey's bigger strengths. The short roll, touch, floater, or transfer the ball the

source thinks is something Edey is capable of doing. He has got a good IQ. He can catch and has good footwork. He looks heavy on his feet but always has great timing and great positioning. Steven Adams is the type of player he should be looking at to emulate. He doesn't seem to be extremely fast, but they have great timing, great hands, great footwork, and they also anticipate plays very well. The source would like to believe that Edey can become that type of player and hopes so. The source thinks Edey's ceiling is those types of guys. He is kind of hard to play, but he has a lot of things he needs to address. He could use his size to his advantage with duck ins and abilities to get great positioning on offensive rebounds. He is not going to be a high flyer, but he does roll well and finds the passing windows very well. He is very capable of catching lobs, keeping the ball high, and being able to finish. If teams want to switch, he is capable of ducking in or just asking for lobs, which is kind of what Edey is going to be leaning on the source is assuming at the NBA level. Offensively, he subbed in for Team Canada at the World Championship for being one of the youngest guys there and he was able to score right away. The pick and roll coverage was one of his issues at the World Championship, which is why they didn't really put him on, but he was always scoring when he was on.

The source was asked about his thoughts about Edey's aggressiveness during games? The source responded that Edey is a very aggressive kid. He has got the mentality of being aggressive, like sometimes probably to a fault where he probably maybe gets in foul trouble in terms of his aggressiveness looking for contact, looking for rebounds, and looking to block shots. He is always super aggressive. The source has never seen Edey not being aggressive ever. He loves the contact. This is not an issue at all. The source would say for aggressiveness, Edey is aggressive but can be borderline over aggressive maybe at times. It is manageable for a team to handle when he gets very over aggressive. When he is at his most aggressive version, he is just a very dominant force inside. He is a presence that can dominate the paint on both sides. One thing he does very well at the FIBA level is being able to get teams in foul trouble so that your team ends up being in the bonus quicker. At the World Championship, they would be in the bonus on offense way quicker than the other team, which benefits all the playmakers. Edey would create the first foul of the game, then you get another two and then next thing you know, they are shooting because he created 2 out of the 5 fouls or 3 out of the 5 fouls. Then you get your passer, playmakers, or elite players or guards at the foul line every time he touches it because they are getting pressed up. The source views this as a big advantage that teams should always think about when they are getting an overly aggressive post player.

The source was asked how he feels about Edey's ability to perform under pressure and in big moments? The source responded that when they coached Edey at the World Championship, he was very good at it. There were no problems. At the World Championship with the limited minutes he had, he was able to perform to a certain extent with whatever minutes they gave him. Everywhere he went, he was able to one get better like drastically get better and also perform, so this speaks volumes for himself. If teams go small ball late in games, it will definitely affect him staying in games

late, but this is the same problem for any big in the world. The source believes this will come with a little bit more of your timing, IQ, anticipation skills, and also just maturity. The source wouldn't expect Edey to be great at it in his first year playing professional. The source would like to think so that Edey can develop this over time.

The source was asked how he feels about Edey's physicality and if he's ready to play at the next level? The source responded that Edey is ready to play at the next level. That should be the least of everybody's problem outside his speed maybe like lateral speed and going up and down, but other than that he is a very physical human being. There are no adjustments the source would like to see Edey make to his body. He already has done almost everything he needs to. He has gained strength while still being able to move. The source thinks Edey has got the right balance. Clearly, he has got an amazing work ethic. The source doesn't know Edey personally like that but his evolution physically has been amazing. He is always in great shape. The source doesn't know if he is the right person to ask, but from an outsider looking at Edey's body, there is definitely always room for improvement but he sees Edey making the best out of what he has. From coaching Edey even three years ago, the source did see that compared to other players that he has coached, people were making quite a big deal out of Edey's speed, but it is not as slow as people make it seem. He is a hard working kid and he is well aware of various parts of his strengths and weaknesses. The source is sure if somebody mentioned to Edey you need to work on that and this is how you need to do it, then he would have done it, so the source has no doubt Edey is going to improve. If the source was a team and he can invest in Edey and has a plan for him moving forward knowing that it is going to be some time before he gets where he needs to be, then the source would definitely invest in a kid like that just because more so than anything the personality and who he is as a person. It makes the source feel good about investing in a kid that is actually going to develop and be better.

The source was asked what are Edey's motives to play the game at the next level? The source responded that Edey's motives to play at the next level is that clearly he loves the game. He is super passionate about his craft and he loves it. It would be hard for the source to say Edey's deep roots as to why. He wouldn't be able to tell us. We all have a very personal reason why we do certain things in life and the source doesn't really know that. Definitely Edey has to be very deep and very strong because he does work really hard.

The source was asked what kind of teammate Edey is? The source responded that Edey is very serious all about business but also very funny and likable at the same time. He balances it well between the professionalism and just the ability to connect with everybody. Obviously, he is a big guy, so sometimes it is easier for the small guys to be jokers and funny. He is very polite, very likable, and has great conversations. He is well-rounded overall. Overall, he is a well-rounded kid. The source would say Edey is a leader by example. He is also a vocal leader. He is not afraid to speak his mind. He was quite comfortable when the source had the chance to coach Edey. The source knew Edey, so he doesn't know if in another environment it would be different, but he was not afraid to speak his mind, especially because the source was coaching the bigs. He was

always demanding to get the ball more and he let everybody know that rightfully so though. Teammates reacted fine to him doing that. He is the big dog and the big guy so there is something to be said when you are that big, physical, and you believe in yourself that you can be successful in that position. He is actually a good player, so everybody is going to respect that. It is better for him to have that type of confidence in himself than just shying away from demanding the ball and being assertive. In U19, teammates definitely elevated their play when Edey led by example.

The source was asked how is Edey's ego and if he is coachable? The source responded that Edey is definitely very coachable, seemed to learn, has a very high IQ, already has self-discipline, and is open-minded. From the time the source was with Edey, he already had a routine that he liked to do. He is a great kid. He was fine responding to criticism from the coaching staff. He was very good. He responded exactly the way you would like everybody to respond. He takes in the information and wants to do it. He is a very coachable kid.

The source was asked how is Edey's work ethics and if he does more than what is required? The source responded that Edey's work ethic is above and beyond. They had a special group, so it was like an outlier group. Caleb Houston, Benedict Mathurin, Olivier-Maxence Prosper, Zach Edey, and Ryan Nembhard were guys that you could tell were going to go to the NBA or on the verge of going to the NBA and you know why. They had that extra edge and extra work ethic to take care of their body, work on their game, or reviewing game film with the staff. All of those guys, the source would say, were the guys who go above and beyond of what they were asked to do on that team. He is the first and last and in any optional stuff they had he was always there. The way Edey would show his work ethic is right away the first thing he asked was where is the gym, where can he get in the gym, and how can he get in the gym. There is no way a kid like that starts basketball that late becomes that good with no work ethic. He got better in a very short time, which speaks volumes in the source's mind.

The source was asked what is Edey's level of basketball IQ and if he can carry over the scouting report to the court? The source responded that Edey is very good with IQ and very good with carrying the scouting report to the court. He is just a bright kid overall and he gets it. He knows what you ask him to do and he knows why he is playing. Overall, he is just a smart person. He was for sure able to pick up on things quickly in the scouting report. The scouting reports for Team Canada are as complex as you get when you are in the World Championship with limited information. The source believes they were pretty complex. They were professionally done. They were not NBA complex, but definitely at least NCAA level.

The source was asked how Edey responds to in game adjustments? The source responded that from what he remembers, Edey was very good with in game adjustments. The source has no worries here. The type of in game adjustments Edey had to respond to are maybe not so much switching pick and roll but more like they would press, zone on the sending man, and zone.

The source was asked what will be one reason Edey will be successful and one reason he will not be successful at the next level? The source responded that one reason Edey wouldn't be successful is not adjusting to the speed, space, and understanding how to really guard pick and roll. This is going to be his number one thing. The main question is can he actually guard outside the paint, which is going to be his biggest thing, and offensively can he provide something and can teams utilize his skillset. When we are talking next level, that would be NBA, but at the FIBA level, he could go play Euroleague tomorrow and be very good. This is the difference between the rules. The NBA is probably making it easier on the wings and long guards or athletic bigs that are skinny and fast. There is a prototype of players that the NBA rules can apply to. They want to see the speed and see the game going up and down. Just your body type can be the reason why he is successful or not. The source has seen guys be successful at the NBA level that were Edey's size so this is the biggest question mark that the source believes everybody has. In the pick and roll coverage, the source views Edey as being used in drop coverage. It would be the simplest way of doing it, but there is other ways you can guard the pick and roll. Even if you are going to switch and be a kind of defense where you channel into the paint but you actually switching or you just switch. He could switch personnel wise maybe, but his primary coverage is going to be that or maybe just a quick step up to go back. The source would say you would have to see in practice if Edey can do it or not do it. This is why the NBA game makes it a little bit hard because the spacing and not being able to stay in the paint defensively makes it harder for Edey's body type. The source doesn't think this is a concern with Edey just yet. He is a young kid, so why not take a chance on a big player like him because as much as the league is also promoting spacing and versatility on defense, there are players that you need deep defenders on and then big bodies like Nikola Jokić, Joel Embiid, Steven Adams, and Jonas Valančiūnas. Edey started playing basketball really late at 18 years old, so he also needs the time to develop. This is why the source was talking about Edey in terms of marginal progression. He started very late and he was a hockey player first and then started playing basketball. This tells the source how Edey gets that much better that quickly and there is still room for improvement. The source doesn't think Edey tapped into his full potential just yet.

The source was asked if Edey ever failed a drug test? The source responded that he doesn't know if Edey failed a drug test.

The source was asked if there are any personal and social red flags for Edey? The source responded that there are no personal and social red flags for Edey. There are none at all. There are no personal and social red flags that the source is aware of.

The source was asked how is Edey's competitive level in practice and does he push others? The source responded that Edey definitely pushes himself, so he pushes others. The source only had the opportunity to coach Edey for a month, so it is hard to gauge for a whole season. He shows his competitiveness by the way he plays and how hard he plays.