

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

**Draft Intel Report- Conducted August 7, 2023**

**Source: Nate Philippe - U19 Team Canada Men's Basketball Coach**

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**The source was asked what is the most transferable skillset for Zach Edey?** The source responded that the most transferable skillset for Edey is rebounding and interior scoring. He is absolutely massive, so you don't have to be concerned about anyone being more physical than him or pushing him around. He is very strong, very physical, has great hands, and has great feet. It is almost like he was born into the wrong era because if this was the early 2000s or the 1990s when the league was dominated by big men, back to the basket scorers, and traditional bigs then he would be a very coveted player. Obviously, in today's NBA with centers expected to shoot the ball from the three-point line and handle the ball on the perimeter, then these are areas he will have to continue to improve to fit into the new NBA. He is more of a throwback traditional center, so the source finds it interesting to see how Edey will translate at the professional level. The tough part for centers like Edey in the NBA is that there used to be drop coverages, ice, or blue, so there would be a lot more ways to protect your centers in ball-screen coverages in the previous NBA, but now it is like a lot more switching 1 through 5, switching on the perimeter, and bigs are expected to defend on the perimeter which would be the biggest challenge for him. He will need to continue to improve his lateral footspeed and being able to defend on the perimeter and ball-screen coverages. The source believes this will be the biggest challenge for Edey and making that jump, but he is such a sponge that the source sees him finding ways to adapt and learn how to do it. He is pretty agile and nimble for a guy his size, so the source thinks Edey will find ways to adapt. The source didn't really have enough time to work with Edey on this through that summer. The source had pretty limited experience with Edey. He worked with Edey with the national team camp. The source was an assistant coach with the U19 national team in 2019. Edey was one of the guys that came to camp and tried out. This is the only time that the source actually worked with Edey hands-on. The source knew Edey's upside was absolutely immense at that time. He is a huge human but has fantastic hands and great feet. He is an absolute sponge, so every single thing that you told him he was soaking it all up and tried to put it into practice right away. The source knew Edey had massive upside. At that time, he was very new to the game. The source thinks Edey has only been playing organized basketball for a year at that time. He is relatively new to the game of basketball and doesn't have the experience that some other players have. This year would be year 5 of Edey playing basketball or somewhere around there. Everything that he has accomplished in his career being so new to the game is absolutely incredible. He is a great kid, very coachable, has no ego at all, and is a great teammate. He is massive, has great hands, has great feet, and has great agility for his size. He has huge potential and has realized a lot of that potential with what he has done at the college level. When they were making the deliberations on

who should make the team, the source personally thought they should absolutely keep Edey and he should have made that roster just because of his size going up against international bigs on Lithuania, Greece, African countries, and etc. The source thought Edey would have been a great asset with the team, but the source got outvoted and Edey didn't end up making it. The source thinks Edey would have been a very good asset to that team and wishes he could have worked with Edey more. He didn't make the team the year the source coached. He has played with the national team since then, but the year the source coached the national team that particular year, Edey didn't make that roster. The rest of the coaching staff felt like they wanted bigs that were quicker on the perimeter with quicker footspeed laterally and being able to hedge ball-screens and defend in transition. They felt like he wouldn't be agile enough up and down the floor in the FIBA game, which is the reason he didn't make it. The source thinks they could have had him still in zone ball-screen coverages and quick show and recover ball-screen coverages. The source believes Edey would have been fine getting up and down the floor rim running and getting back in transition. The source wasn't as concerned. This was before he went to Purdue, so he was an incoming freshman at Purdue. People didn't know what he was yet and how good he actually was yet, so it was more speculative. It was just a guessing game of how he would fit in with high-level basketball and international FIBA basketball. The source thought Edey showed very strong flashes in the camp. He was just so big that nobody could keep him off the block and off the offensive glass. He has great hands and nice soft touch. He had deficiencies that he showed defensively, but he did so much on the offensive end and was so disruptive with his size that the source thought it was worth taking a shot.

**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 he thinks the FIBA game is very similar to the NBA. The source thinks teams would play off Edey. They would try and keep him off the block and double team him in the post, but on the perimeter, they would probably leave him open and dare him to shoot. This is how he would be defended at the international level and the NBA level.

**The source was asked about his thoughts about Edey's aggressiveness during games?** The source responded that Edey proved that at Purdue that he was extremely aggressive. He put up huge numbers and he didn't back down from anyone. He is very physical. He is relentless in attacking in the paint and attacking the offensive glass. The source thinks Edey did a great job while he was at Purdue and was very impressed with everything he had accomplished especially for someone being so new to the game. The source saw Edey at the ground floor when he was brand new, so it is a pretty incredible curve of how much he improved in such a short period. He is tough and physical. He played hockey growing up, so he kind of brings that toughness and edginess. He is definitely not soft at all. He is a lot more confident now. When the source first saw Edey and first worked with him he was still wet behind the ears, just learning the game, and still trying to figure it all out. Over time, he has learned what his strengths and weaknesses are. The source thinks going to Purdue was the best possible fit for Edey because Matt Painter has had very good experience developing that type of big that is 7

feet 2 inches to 7 feet 4 inches that are big strong physical bigs. He is definitely much more aggressive, assertive, and confident than when the source first saw him. The source has seen Edey in foul trouble. A lot of the games that the source has watched Edey got into foul trouble, but a lot of that too is a lot of officials have no idea how to officiate a player as big and as physical as him. The source doesn't know if it is so much Edey being over aggressive as much as just officials not knowing how to officiate his type of size and physicality. The ways he shows his aggressiveness are he usually shows it on the offensive glass and attacking the rim. He is definitely very assertive with finishing in the paint, finishing above the rim, and attacking the offensive glass, so the source thinks that is where Edey shows his aggressiveness.

**The source was asked how he feels about Edey's ability to perform under pressure and in big moments?** The source responded that he hasn't watched enough of Purdue games in the tournament or Purdue games in the Big 10 tournament to be able to say that. The source believes though that this might be an area where Edey could show some of the inexperience. He hasn't been in that many big moments other than his time at Purdue, so this might be an area where he has to keep getting more experienced.

**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 very physical. He is very strong and very physical, even when the source worked with him when he was first learning the game. He is an absolute monster. He is very strong in his lower body, strong in his core, and strong in his upper body. This is why he is able to post up and score at will at the high major level at a D1 level. He is an absolute monster specimen. He is very tough to keep out of the paint and keep off the block so there is no questioning his strength and his physicality for sure. There aren't really any adjustments the source would like to see Edey make to his body. He is just going to have to keep improving his foot speed and keep improving his speed in general, but that is easier said than done when you are 7 feet 4 inches. This is going to be the biggest challenge for him, which would be agility and footspeed at the next level. The source thinks this could be something Edey can develop. NBA strength and conditioning coaches have access to the best sports science in the world, so the source would think there are ways they can work with him on footspeed and agility to help improve in that area.

**The source was asked what are Edey's motives to play the game at the next level?** The source responded that he hasn't spent enough time with Edey to know his motives to play the game at the next level. When the source worked with Edey, he was brand new to the game and he was still just trying to figure out what he can accomplish and how good he can be, so the source has no idea where Edey is at now mentally.

**The source was asked what kind of teammate Edey is?** The source responded that from everything he saw out of Edey, he was a fantastic teammate. He is very humble, very grounded, easy to talk to, and very coachable. The source never saw any signs of any issues character wise with Edey at all. The interactions with his teammates are

nice. He has got a great personality. He is easy to talk to and is likable. The source has never heard of any issues with Edey having issues with teammates or coaches.

**The source was asked how is Edey's ego and if he is coachable?** The source responded that when he worked with Edey, he had no ego at all and he was very coachable. The source is sure Edey hasn't changed that much. He was definitely a sponge and took in as much information as he could. He is definitely trying to soak up as much as he can from his coaches and teammates, so the source hasn't heard of any ego issues at all. From what the source saw, Edey responds very good with criticism from the coaching staff. He just soaks everything in, takes constructive criticism, and accepts coaching. He is very coachable. From the time the source worked with and coached Edey to now, the source has seen those improvements in the things he told Edey that he needed to improve on. It is pretty remarkable how far he has come in a short period of time. Everything that he has accomplished at the college level was a credit to his development, hard work, and he has come a long way. It is pretty incredible to see how far he has come. The things the source told Edey he would like to see him improve on when he worked with him are that when he worked with him a lot of it was just getting low while he was sealing, keeping the ball high, being low, wide, and aggressive on seals and holding his position, attacking when he gets an entry pass, attacking the offensive glass when he has opportunities, when he catches the ball keep it high, finish high, and rim running. The source played center himself when he was a player, so he was the big man coach with the national team. Edey soaked up all of it and that is how he has been so dominant at the college level. He is very aggressive in fighting for position and holding seals. Once he seals, it is pretty much impossible to move him, so really the only way to guard him in the post is to double. He is very effective in attacking double teams too. The source thinks a lot of the information he passed on to Edey and he is sure other coaches have given him the same instructions Edey has definitely soaked it all up. The source would see Edey playing basketball for only 5 years as a positive personally because it just shows how much more he has to grow and how high his ceiling is. The source would view it more as a positive that Edey can win however many Player of The Year awards he won with only having 5 or 6 years of basketball experience. It just shows how high his ceiling is and how good he can be, so the source doesn't view it as a negative.

**The source was asked how is Edey's work ethics and if he does more than what is required?** The source responded that he wasn't with Edey long enough to really see this. He worked hard during the camp. Any time he had downtime, he would come to the source and say hey coach let's work on post moves, let's get some more hook shots in, or let's work on more drop steps so he definitely seemed like a very hard worker during this time. The source thinks the way Edey has developed just shows that he has worked extremely hard on his game. The source would definitely see Edey as a very hard worker.

**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 he sees Edey successful at the next level is his size, physicality, hands, and

ability to adapt and learn. The biggest reason he wouldn't be successful would be the lateral footspeed and whether he would be able to hedge ball-screens or switch on perimeter players in the NBA.

**The source was asked if there are any personal and social red flags for Edey?** The source responded that he wouldn't really be able to speak to that. He didn't coach Edey long enough, but he didn't see any while he worked with him.

**The source was asked how is Edey's competitive level in practice and does he push others?** The source responded that from what he saw Edey is very competitive in practice and definitely pushed everyone around him. He is definitely competitive and tough. The source didn't see any issues there. The ways he shows his competitiveness are showing assertiveness and aggressiveness. He is a tough kid. He shows it with motor, toughness, and physicality.