Enrique Freeman-Akron Zips- 6 feet 7 inches-206 pounds- 23 years old- Senior

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Source: Devan Morrow- Graduate Assistant Akron Zips

## The source was asked what is the most transferable skillset for Enrique

**Freeman?** The source responded that the most transferable skillset for Freeman is his motor and energy. This is what got him on the floor early on at Akron. This is something that he has never lost and will never lose. He plays harder than anyone else on the floor. He gives a maximum effort. The ways that he shows his motor are through his relentless rebounding, playing hard on defense, and always getting to the next play and never get too down on himself if things aren't going the way he would like. His mentality is just next play, next play, and next play. He has constant energy. When he does these plays it is for sure momentum shifting and contagious. It is definitely momentum shifting and it is contagious like if they ever had a bad play on one end Freeman is always making a great play on the other end which changes momentum of games for sure.

The source was asked how Freeman was being defended at the college level compared to how he will be defended on the NBA level? The source responded that in college basically every time Freeman touched the ball he was getting double teamed. This probably won't happen in the NBA would obviously be the source's guess. His ability to play out of the double teams as he matured out of the double teams he realized he didn't have to make the heroic play. The pass he makes is usually the one that is going to get guys open so he was extremely selfless as a teammate which is what made their team good and that is what made him so easy for their guys to play with as well. His improved three-point shooting even though it is low volume allowed opponents to closeout harder on him which gives him more of a lane to the rim. The improved shooting is low volume but he knew that wasn't the way they were going to win games. They needed him down on the block and they needed him around the rim. He has been able to shoot it in like summer workouts. In summer workouts he has always been a guy that gets in the gym and gets shots up. He has the ability to shoot but it is just not like something they needed him to do. Again this goes back to the type of person he is. He wasn't selfish in terms of he needs to shoot more threes so he gets professional looks. It was never about that. He was always about the team. He can change his playstyle to fit the NBA and is adaptable like that. The source would say this is the biggest thing for Freeman. He has obviously got so much skill and talent right now. He has got unlimited untapped potential. They needed him around the rim playing the 5 but you saw it at the NBA Combine and G League Combine where he has got perimeter skills that he is just now evolving in the last 3 months into the season and a little bit last summer when they were working out with him. He has got so much untapped potential still.

The source was asked about his thoughts about Freeman's aggressiveness during games? The source responded that Freeman is aggressive when he needs to

be. He is never thirsty by any means. He knows when and is a smart enough player to pick his spots. He is never selfish but the source would definitely say Freeman is aggressive. When Freeman is at his most aggressive self he looks like a monster. He is grabbing offensive rebounds, dunking on people, and blocking shots on one end and sprinting down the floor and getting an easy dunk on the other end. He is just relentless. The source would say Freeman is medium aggressiveness. He is aggressive when he needs to be. It is just where it needs to be at. He has got great feel for the game. When he needs to put his foot down he does but when he doesn't he is unselfish and gets his teammates involved and makes the right play.

The source was asked how he feels about Freeman's ability to perform under pressure and in big moments? The source responded that this is when Freeman thrives. He makes his impact late in games the same way he impacts every game. He just has a relentless motor, comes up with clutch blocks, and gets his hands on basketballs defensively that most guys can't. Offensively it is banging a three late in the MAC championship, getting on the glass and getting an offensive rebound putback, or making a post move. It is whatever the game calls for. He definitely does well taking whatever the defense gives him.

The source was asked how he feels about Freeman's physicality and if he's ready to play at the next level? The source responded that Freeman is definitely ready to play at the next level. He is 23 turning 24 years old. He has been in college for 5 years now. He has been in the strength program 5 years. They have a really good strength program there at Akron and he has developed great relationships with their strength and conditioning staff. He knew this was something that he needed to improve from his first year to now. You just see the difference in his pictures when he was freshman to now. He is a grown man. The source would describe Freeman's body as long and athletic. It is an NBA ready body for sure. It is an NBA ready body most definitely. He has got plus wingspan, he is 6 feet 8 inches, and plays bigger than he is so the source would definitely say this. There are no adjustments that the source would like to see Freeman make to his body. He is doing all the right things. He should just keep doing what he is doing.

The source was asked what are Freeman's motives to play the game at the next **level?** The source responded that Freeman's motives to play at the next level is his family. First his motivation is his family and then his motives is to be the best player he can be and help teams win but his motivation is his family.

The source was asked what kind of teammate Freeman is? The source responded that you can't find a better teammate than Freeman. He is a leader through his actions and his words. All the guys like him. He can get along with literally anyone. He is a guy that guys lean on for advice and stuff like that. This 100 percent impresses the source and the team in general. He is just different in the best way possible. The interactions with his teammates are genuine. There is genuine friendships and genuine relationships. It is not just because they are on the same basketball team. He truly cares about them as people. He is both a leader by example and vocal leader. Guys definitely

respond well to this. He will mostly lead through his actions because he does all the right things but when he needs his voice heard he knows when to speak up.

The source was asked how is Freeman's ego and if he is coachable? The source responded that Freeman has absolutely no ego whatsoever. It is crazy. He is extremely coachable. You could ask him to do anything. It goes back to him playing the 5 this year when he knew that probably playing on the perimeter was his chance at the NBA. He just does whatever is asked of him. He is extremely humble. The source would say that Freeman definitely puts the team first before his individual goals and accolades. He hardly knew he was setting the double-doubles record this year until their social media team put it out there. When getting criticism from the coaching staff he values everything their coaching staff says. He takes it in and knows that they all have the best interest for him and their team success. He does whatever they ask him.

The source was asked how is Freeman's work ethics and if he does more than what is required? The source responded that Freeman's work ethic is crazy. He does extra shots and extra lifts. It doesn't matter he is already doing it. The skills that he is working are his three-point shot, his ability to handle the ball on the perimeter, and all the things that he showcased at the Combine that teams kind of were like unaware that he could do at this level. He just kept developing. Freeman would probably be the first to tell you that when he walked on there he didn't know that he would be an NBA player. He just and kept developing, kept working, and kept doing all the right things and next thing you know he is on draft boards. It was slow and steady development overall when it comes to doing the right things but like you could introduce him to something on Monday and he has got it down like he has done it his whole life on Wednesday. It is ridiculous. He picks up on things really fast. It is really fast for sure. He is a high intensity guy in these workouts and when doing extra work. He is high intensity. He does everything at the maximum intensity. He is relentless.

The source was asked what is Freeman's level of basketball IQ and if he can carry over the scouting report to the court? The source responded that Freeman's basketball IQ is pretty high. Their scouting reports are pretty extensive and he is a leader on the floor and an extra voice on the floor from his ability to know the game. He is translating the scouting report to teammates as well in terms of him telling guys where they are supposed to be and what to do. He is that guidance to them. The scouting reports at Akron are pretty detailed and complex.

The source was asked how Freeman responds to in game adjustments? The source responded that Freeman is solid at it. They pretty much were able to stick to their game plan for a lot of the season but in game adjustments aren't something that he struggles with because he knows the game and has got good skills for the game. He is a student of the game like he watches the NBA, watches other college games, and he is just trying to learn and keep growing. Coach Groce loves the game of basketball, is a really good teacher of the game of basketball, and obviously a really good coach which Freeman has benefited from this a lot because their coach is so detailed and forces a guy like Freeman to be so detailed as a student of the game. The type of in game

adjustment that Freeman had to respond to are changing ball-screen coverage, post coverage, and their flow game. He is able to adapt. It is all just different defensive coverages.

The source was asked what will be one reason Freeman will be successful and one reason he will not be successful at the next level? The source responded that one reason he sees Freeman successful at the next level is because he never stops. He is the most positive person on and off the floor. He is a joy to be around. He plays hard. He is the type of guy you can get with and spend 2 hours with and not know that the time has gone by. He is just a good human being. On the floor he has got all the ability in the world and has a chance to be really special. The source thinks again that Freeman has untapped potential. The only way he is not successful is if he goes to a situation that doesn't benefit developing him the way that The University of Akron has invested developing in him. The source see that at that level you are getting the best development possible so he can't see a situation where Freeman is not successful. It is not a concern for the source. He will be successful in anything he does whether he goes into sales or plays in the NBA he will be successful. If he doesn't get that development he won't show his frustration. He will do anything the team wants and try to do it at the best of his ability.

The source was asked if Freeman ever failed a drug test? The source responded that heck no Freeman has never failed a drug test. He does everything you would want someone to do off the floor. He doesn't party, doesn't smoke, and doesn't do any of this stuff.

The source was asked if there are any personal and social red flags for Freeman? The source responded that there are no personal and social red flags for Freeman. He is a joy to be around.

The source was asked how is Freeman's competitive level in practice and does he push others? The source responded that in practice Freeman wants to win every drill whether that is a sprint or five on five it doesn't matter. He wants to win and have his team max out their potential. This definitely elevates the level of practice and the level of the team because you have to match his energy and motor or else you are going to get ran out of the gym. He doesn't have high standards for his teammates and doesn't expect them to play as good as he is playing. It is all relative. They have guys who don't have the skill level that Freeman has and everyone is aware of that so no it is not like he looks down on other teammates. He tries to bring them up with him. The way he pushes other in practice are leading through actions and when he needs to tell a guy that we have got to step it up he is not afraid to do that. He never does it in a rude way. It goes back to him having a great relationship with their guys. The ways that Freeman shows his competitiveness in practice are just by wanting to win every drill. He gets mad when he doesn't win a sprint or doesn't win a drill. He is just always trying to do the thing that helps his team win.