

Raiders' Crosby 'livid, confused' at first over rescinded trade

LAS VEGAS (TNS) — Las Vegas Raiders star defensive end Maxx Crosby believes the wild turn of events that saw his trade to the Baltimore Ravens that was rescinded after five days will only serve to take his game to a new level.

"I just feel like I'm meant to be a Raider and that's it," Crosby said on an episode of his podcast "The Rush," which was released Tuesday. "I'm there to win and I want to win so bad. My passion is at an all-time high. This just adds another chip to my shoulder that I didn't know I needed and didn't know was coming. It's going to be an incredible year."

Crosby made his first public comments on the Ravens' controversial decision to withdraw from a trade due to concerns over his physical examination from the team. The Raiders would have received two first-round picks had the trade gone through.

While the Ravens' decision was within the rules, there have been questions about the ethics involved considering the team immediately pivoted to sign free agent Trey Hendrickson to a similar deal. It's very rare for trades to be rescinded, but the immense value involved on both sides made it the biggest story in the league.

"I've gone through some (stuff) in my life, I can't lie," Crosby said. "But that whole situation was probably one of the most unique, crazy, wild up-and-down roller coasters I've ever

been a part of for about five days."

It started on Friday, March 6. Crosby had a large group of friends and family in town for a planned party to celebrate his six-year sober anniversary the next day. He got in the car to meet a group at Fontainebleau Las Vegas for a Power Slap event when he got simultaneous calls from his agent and Raiders general manager John Spytek informing him he would be traded to the Ravens.

"I didn't know how to react. I was in shock," Crosby said. "You hear these rumors, but you can't really prepare yourself for the reality. I've been a Raider my whole career and I love being a Raider.

"It's a mixture of excitement, shock, the unknown. All those things hit you at once."

Crosby remained in Las Vegas for his event on Saturday and spent time processing everything on Sunday with friends and family before flying to Washington D.C., because it was the only direct flight from Las Vegas, on Monday and being driven "two hours" to Baltimore.

"That (expletive) was weak," he said, getting a brief shot in at the team that ultimately decided against bringing him aboard.

He said he was able to get a workout in on Monday night and then arrived at the Ravens facility on Tuesday morning. A short time later, he was sent for imaging that mostly fo-

cused on areas where he has suffered injuries in the past, including the knee he had operated on in January for a torn meniscus.

Crosby also mentioned his labrum and ankles as past problem areas of which the Ravens wanted to get a better look.

Before heading back to the hotel and before he had any indication of any potential problems, Crosby asked to meet with Ravens head coach Jesse Minter.

"I dap him up and you could tell the energy was off," Crosby said. "He had a blank face. I'm not thinking anything of it. Maybe he's just different or whatever. He sat me down and said, 'I don't know how to say this, but one of our doctors has concerns with the results.' They're concerned about the future. We really want you and this is what it is, but we have to get more opinions."

Crosby said his immediate reaction was fear. He knew he had been doing everything according to plan as part of his rehab from surgery done by one of the most respected doctors in the sports world, Neal ElAttrache.

"I was terrified, because I'm thinking, 'What the (expletive),' " Crosby said. "Neal is my guy. He's the best. I hadn't talked to him or my agent, so I'm freaking out."

Crosby said a conversation with ElAttrache ultimately calmed him down.

The surgeon assured him everything was on schedule and that his recovery process had been "100 percent" communicated with the Ravens in advance of the trade, so there should have been no surprises.

Crosby said he ate lunch and got in a nap in between communications with his agents and doctors as he waited for an update.

Ultimately, his agent, CJ LaBoy, informed him the Ravens had officially pulled out of the trade. Crosby said he saw the news on the ticker minutes later.

"I'm livid, confused," Crosby said. "The whole nine all at once."

Crosby said he and his wife, Rachel, quickly ate dinner and packed up before the Ravens lined up a private jet to fly back to Las Vegas. He arrived after midnight on Wednesday morning and said he was back in the Raiders facility before 6 a.m.

"People expect it to be weird or nervous, but everything happens for a reason," he said. "I couldn't have predicted it, nobody could have. I didn't know what to say, but I'm not letting anybody knock my shine or making me feel weird. I know exactly who I am. I'm healthy and crushing my rehab. I'm meant to be a Raider and that's it. Simple as that."

Crosby said he took note of all the signings the Raiders made when he was not supposed to be a part of the team anymore, but truly got excited for

all the new additions as he was back in the building and processed being part of the organization once again.

"It's a crazy situation, but it's just another chapter in the story," he said. "It just made everything more clear. You think this was hard? I've been through way worse. I've been through real adversity. So I was calm."

He steered clear of addressing whether he believes the Ravens backed out of the trade simply to save their draft picks upon realizing they could sign Hendrickson instead.

"Everyone has their own conspiracy theory," he said. "Nobody will ever admit on either side what the real truth is and ultimately, it doesn't matter. I am where I'm supposed to be. I know that."

He joins a team that has made several key additions and now has his position coach and friend Rob Leonard as defensive coordinator. Crosby made clear he had nothing to do with that hire and wanted Leonard to be celebrated for a promotion he fully earned himself, but he is excited to work with him.

He's also excited to prove he's healthy and will be for the long haul, regardless of what so many commentators and pundits have had to say over the last week.

"There's a ton of doctors out there, for sure," he said. "But we don't need to give them that attention. They don't deserve it."

NHL STANDINGS

NHL Conference Glance EASTERN CONFERENCE table with columns for GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA and rows for teams like m-Carolina, a-Buffalo, a-Tampa Bay, etc.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

NHL Conference Glance WESTERN CONFERENCE table with columns for GP, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA and rows for teams like c-Colorado, c-Dallas, c-Minnesota, etc.

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

(a, c, m, p)-top three in their division

Monday's Games, Tuesday's Games, Wednesday's Games, Thursday's Games, Friday's Games with team names and scores.

THIS DATE IN SPORTS

March 18 1945 — Maurice Richard of the Montreal Canadiens becomes the first NHL player to score 50 goals in a season during a 4-2 triumph over the Boston Bruins in the final game of the season. 1950 — CCMY beats Bradley 69-61 for the NIT championship. 1953 — Don Schlundt scores 30 points to lead Indiana to a 69-68 victory over Kansas for the NCAA basketball championship. 1990 — Jeff Fryer's 41 points leads Loyola Marymount to a 149-115 victory over defending national champion Michigan in the highest-scoring game in NCAA tournament history. 1993 — Santa Clara beats Arizona 64-61 to become the second 15th-seeded team to win a first-round game in the NCAA tournament. 1995 — Michael Jordan announces he is ending his 17 month NBA retirement. 2001 — Indiana's Reggie Miller becomes the first player in NBA history to accumulate 2,000 3-pointers after hitting four in a 101-95 win over Sacramento. 2008 — The Houston Rockets' 22-game winning streak comes to an end. Kevin Garnett scores 22 points and Paul Pierce adds 20 as the Celtics beat the Rockets 94-74, stopping Houston's remarkable run. 2009 — New Jersey's Martin Brodeur breaks Patrick Roy's NHL record for career wins by a goaltender. Brodeur records his 552nd win in a 3-2 decision over the Chicago Blackhawks. 2015 — Lindsey Vonn wins the World Cup downhill title for the seventh time, winning the last race in the discipline at the World Cup finals in Meribel, France. 2016 — Middle Tennessee State sends a big shock through the men's NCAA Tournament, topping second-seeded Michigan 90-81 in the first round. Middle Tennessee never trails the Spartans (29-6) in one of the biggest upsets since the tournament began seeding teams in 1985. 2016 — Thomas Walkup scores 33 points and 14th-seeded Stephen F. Austin takes down West Virginia's full-court pressure with some of its own in-your-face defense, pulling off a 70-56 first-round upset of the third-seeded Mountaineers in the NCAA Tournament. 2017 — Kalani Fryer scores 21 points and top-seeded Baylor overwhirls much smaller Texas Southern 119-30, the most lopsided women's NCAA Tournament game. The 89-point margin breaks the previous record 74-point win by Tennessee over North Carolina A&T (11-37) in 1994. Baylor's 119 points are the most scored in regulation of a women's NCAA Tournament game, surpassing the previous record 116. 2017 — Texas A&M pulls off the biggest comeback in women's NCAA Tournament history, rallying from a 21-point deficit for a 63-61 victory over Penn to close the first round of the NAAs. The fifth-seeded Aggies finish the game on a 25-1 run to beat the 12th-seeded Quakers. 2019 — 40-year old Dallas Mavericks forward Dirk Nowitzki overakes Witt Chamberlain to go 6th with 31,424 points on the NBA scorers' list; Mavs suffer 129-125 OT loss to New Orleans Pelicans.

NBA STANDINGS

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WESTERN CONFERENCE

NBA Conference Glance WESTERN CONFERENCE table with columns for W, L, Pct, GB and rows for teams like Oklahoma City, San Antonio, L.A. Lakers, etc.

Monday's Games, Tuesday's Games, Wednesday's Games with team names and scores.

SPRING TRAINING GLANCE

Spring Training Glance AMERICAN LEAGUE table with columns for W, L, Pct and rows for teams like New York, Texas, Chicago, etc.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

National League table with columns for W, L, Pct and rows for teams like Atlanta, Los Angeles, San Francisco, etc.

PITTSBURGH PIRATES SCHEDULE

Pittsburgh Pirates Schedule table with columns for Date, Time, Location, and opponent.

LOCAL BOXING

Local Boxing table with columns for Name, Weight, and opponent.

BOB EVANS

Standings — KP 27-9, Tankers 26-10, Servers 23-13, Managers 17.5-18.5, Greeters 7.5-28.5, Grill 7-29. High series — John Barger 232, Todd Shouey 225, Rick Whiting 215.

HILLTOP KEGLERS

Standings — Alley Oops 35-13, All Nines 32-16, The Misfits 25.5-22.5, Girls Gone Wild 25-23, Pin Crushers 23.5-24.5, Beach Bums 23-25, Splits & Giggles 14-34, The 4 Bowlers 12-36.

BETTER BUSINESS

Standings — Enter Sandman 72-32, Oil City Automotive 59.5-44.5, Franklin Concrete 58-46, Venango Machine 55-49, O'Neils Plumbing 52-52, BM Floors 52-52, Schake's Industries 51-53, Wendy's 41-63, Disruption 40-64, Jack Shadow's House of Terrors 38.5-65.5.

CITY TENPIN

Standings — Eagles Club 113-69, Ultra Graph-X 108-74, Village Auto 105-77, World of Wheels 102-80, Seneca Lanes 95-87, Victorian City Art & Frame 93-89, Safe Lite 90-92, AY Mechanical 85-97, Community Ambulance 84-98, Hoyles Chop Shop 81-101, Franklin Concrete 72-110, House Balls 64-118.

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LES FRICKSHUN MIXED

Standings — Dinkle's Plumbing 53-17, Camper Dave's RV Rescue 47-23, Liberty Electronics 38-32, Franklin Service 37-33, Hartland Homes 37-33, McMillen's Carpet 36-34, Last Call 32-38, A Team 29-41, Nathan's Team 22-48, Orphan Angels 17-53.

MEKISSICK/KLAPEK

Standings — Last Call 36-2110, POW/MIA 35-21, Mellings 34-22, Poly Pro 29-27, Split Happens 20-36, Pin Busters 14-42.

AARP

Standings — Woodsplitters 36-12, Throwbots 31-17, Our Gang 30-18, Alley Cats 29-19, Just Us Four 28-20, Ralph Raiders 28-20, Grumpy Old Men 27-21, Spare Timers 26.5-21.5, Joe's Bar 26-22, Lucky Strikers 24.5-23.5, K Zam 24-24, How We Roll 22-26, 4 Kings 21-27, Pete's Girls 14-34, Pinpushers 11-37.

SUNDAY FUNDAY MIXED COUPLES

Standings — Storm 20-8, The Pin Spots 17.5-10.5, Ham Bones 15.5-12.5, Put Up the Bumpers 11-17, Team Brunswick 10-18, The Gutters 10-18.

K OF C MERCHANTS DUCKPINS

Standings — Shawgo Real Estate 23.5-16.5, Ultra Graph-X 23-17, Friedhaber's 21-19, Reinsel Funeral Home 12.5-27.5.

PENGUINS SUMMARY

Penguins Summary table with columns for Pittsburgh, Colorado, and various statistics like Goals, Shots on Goal, etc.

GUYS & DOLLS

Standings — Richar Trinch & Co. 26-2, Schake Industries 21-7, Franklin Insurance 15-13, Lockhart Raceway 14-14, King's Construction 11-7, Ultra Graph-X 11-17, Team 6 9-19, Engles Motorsports 5-23.

LABYRINTHS

Standings — Warblers 33-15, Cardinals 30.5-17.5, Parakeets 27-21, Doves 24.5-23.5, Towhee's 21-27, Love Birds 8-40.

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TRANSACTIONS

Major League Baseball American League NEW YORK YANKEES — Sent RHP Bradley Haner to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL).

National League NEW YORK METS — Optioned OF MJ Melendez and RHP Christian Scott to Syracuse (IL). Sent RHPs Adbert Alzolza, Nick Burdi and Daniel Duarte, INFs Christian Arroyo and Jose Rojas to Syracuse. SAN DIEGO PADRES — Optioned RHP Ty Adcock to El Paso (PCL).

SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Optioned RHP Blade Tidwell to Sacramento (PCL). Sent INF Jake Holton to Sacramento.

PIRATES BOXSCORE

Pirates Boxscore table for Houston 10, Pittsburgh 2 with columns for ab, r, h, bi and rows for individual players.

TOTALS

Totals table for Houston 103, Pittsburgh 001 with columns for IP, H, R, ER, BB, SO.

DP—Houston 3, Pittsburgh 0. LOB—Houston 7, Pittsburgh 7. 2B—Unroe (1), Bart (1). HR—Mathews (1), Cole (1), SB—Loperfido (1), Whitcomb (1), Cruz (1). SF—Stovall (1).

SPORTS ON TV

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)

TRUTV — NCAA Tournament: Prairie View A&M vs. Lehigh. First Four, Dayton, Ohio 7 p.m. ESPN — NIT Tournament: Navy at Wake Forest, First Round 9 p.m. ESPN — NIT Tournament: Dayton at Bradley, First Round 9:15 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S)

ESPN — NCAA Tournament: Richmond vs. Nebraska, First Four, Durham, N.C. 9 p.m. ESPN — NCAA Tournament: Stephen F. Austin vs. Missouri St., First Four, Austin, Texas 11 p.m. ESPN — NIT Tournament: Saint Joseph's at Colorado St., First Round 7 p.m.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

ESPN — NCAA Tournament: Mississippi State vs. South Carolina, First Round 6 p.m. SECN — Louisiana Tech at Mississippi State 8 p.m. SECN — UAB at Mississippi State 8 p.m.

GOLF

6 a.m. (Thursday) FS1 — LIV Golf League: First Round, The Club at St. Yn City, Midrand, South Africa 1 p.m. MLB BASEBALL 1 p.m. MLB — Spring Training: Boston vs. N.Y. Yankees, Tampa, Fla. 4 p.m.

NBA BASKETBALL

7:10 p.m. ESPN — Golden State at Boston 9:35 p.m. ESPN — L.A. Lakers at Houston 7 p.m. NHL HOCKEY 7 p.m. TNT — New Jersey at N.Y. Rangers 9:30 p.m.

RTG BY (MEN'S)

4:55 a.m. (Thursday) FS2 — NRL: Canterbury-Bankstown at Canberra 2:45 p.m. FS2 — King Cup: Al Hilal at Al Ahli, Semifinal 4 p.m. CBSSN — UEFA Champions League: Atalanta at Bayern Munich, Round of 16 — Leg 2 7 p.m. CBSSN — U.S. Open Cup: Hartford Athletic at FC Motown, First Round, FS1 — CONCACAF Champions Cup: Nashville SC at Inter Miami CF, Round of 16 — Leg 2 9 p.m.

CONCACAF CHAMPIONS CUP

FS1 — CONCACAF Champions Cup: Philadelphia Union at CF America, Round of 16 — Leg 2 10:55 p.m. FS2 — CONCACAF Champions Cup: San Diego FC at Deportivo Toluca FC, Round of 16 — Leg 2 11 p.m. FS1 — CONCACAF Champions Cup: Vancouver Whitecaps FC at Seattle, Round of 16 — Leg 2 11 a.m.

TENNIS CHANNEL

11 a.m. ATP/WTA 1st Round VOLLEYBALL (WOMEN'S) 8 p.m. USA — League One Volleyball: Atlanta at Nebraska