

Scott Bergman

From: GoBlackKnights.com 2011 <rivalsgoblackknights@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2015 11:34 AM
To: Scott Bergman
Subject: [SPAM] Maples Article

April 30, 2015

RB Raymond Maples has eyes on the NFL

GoBlackKnights.com
GoBlackKnights.com Staff

Related Links:

Follow us on Twitter @goblackknights

Talk about it in **The 12th Knight**

5 1 0 6

When it comes to Army football players receiving legitimate looks from the NFL teams, it is probably more common than the average fan would imagine. Over the past several years, several former Black Knights have been so close to finding a place on an NFL roster.



Will former Army RB Raymond Maples get a shot at the NFL?

as well as being licensed with the Military Court. "I corrected that lost in translation situation with the interested clubs."

"He can apply for a suspension of the commitment by the Commander of the base to pursue the NFL," added the

Players like Trent Steelman, who appears to be on verge once again of getting that opportunity that escaped him in 2013. "Right after the 2013 NFL Draft, literally, as soon as the last pick was taken, I got a call from the Baltimore Ravens, who wanted to sign me as a free agent," Steelman said in his recent interview with David Fazekas of ABC News, whereby the writer reported that the euphoria of finally signing with an NFL team was short-lived, however. Steelman could not get out of his five-year commitment to the military, he said.

Then there have been players like Alejandro Villanueva who is a current member of the Pittsburgh Steelers' practice squad.

To take it one step further and over the past 2-3 years, Josh McNary and Collin Mooney have been active members of the Indianapolis Colts and Tennessee Titans, respectfully.

That brings us to former running back and 2014 West Point graduate, Raymond Maples. The product of Philadelphia (Pa.), who accumulated 2,755 career yards as a Black Knight, is now hoping to get the attention NFL teams. But, first things first for the 6-foot-1, 220 pounder according to Scott Bergman, who is Maples' agent as per the running back's Facebook message on Wednesday ... which was confirmed by Bergman in his conversation with **GoBlackKnights.com**.

"The teams until tonight didn't even realize Ray was available for the NFL due to his commitment to the Army," said Bergman, who is an attorney and NFLPA agent in the DC area,

agent. "That is in progress right now and I will be speaking with them tomorrow as well."

According to Bergman, Maples will have to get the call to one of the NFL clubs or all of them, make a decision which is the best fit for him. That would be followed by the running back going to the rookie minicamp and get reviewed over a 72 hour boot camp situation with the NFL club ... this starts May 7th.

The challenge/hurdle?

"I do not know if the Commander will grant it, but I will be speaking to him," acknowledged Bergman. "I am familiar with the requirements Ray needs to get approval to leave the base for extended leave and proceed to an NFL rookie minicamp. I am attempting to follow procedure to make that happen for Ray at this time."

For the Maples camp, it is their hope that the former Army running back's 7am Thursday meeting with his Commander will allow for him to get the suspension and proceed forward with rookie minicamp

It will truly be interesting to see how all of this rolls out for Maples, who did not participate in 2015 Pro Day held at the Kimsey Athletic Center on the campus of West Point, where a few seniors from the 2014 team showcased their abilities in front of scouts from the New York Jets.

**** To chat with other Army fans about this article and more, please visit *The 12th Knight* message board. ****

Respectfully,

Charles Grevious, Publisher

GoBlackKnights.com

"The Premier Online Army Football Community"

rivals.com

YAHOO!
SPORTS