

Charting the 'Mississippi Miracle'

Lateral 1: After catching QB Blake Barmore's pass, WR Shawn Thompson cuts to the Millsaps 44 before lateraling back to WR Riley Curry at the Millsaps 47.

Lateral 2: Curry circles toward the right sideline and is met by several defenders at the Millsaps 42. Curry slings the ball back to G Josh Hooten at the Millsaps 46.

Lateral 3: Hooten blindly tosses the hot potato over his head, straight to WR Michael Tomlin, who pulls it down rebound-style at the Millsaps 46.

Lateral 4: Tomlin, smothered by defenders, stumbles forward a yard and dishes to C Stephen Arnold at the Millsaps 48.

Lateral 5: Arnold turns and pitches to Thompson back at the Trinity 48.

Lateral 6: Thompson runs from the right hash to the left hash, then flips to WR Brandon Maddux, running the other way.

Lateral 7: Maddux tries the right side-line but puts on the brakes at the Millsaps 41. He retreats, flips the ball back to Curry, who catches it at the Trinity 48.

Lateral 8: Curry spins and throws the ball to Maddux at the Trinity 44. After one pass reception and eight laterals, the Tigers have gained four yards.

Lateral 9: Maddux immediately passes back to the left to Barmore, who catches it at the Trinity 42 and runs the ball out of Tiger territory for good.

Lateral 10: Barmore rolls all the way to the Millsaps 32, where he is tackled, but not before getting off passing the ball back to Thompson at the Millsaps 34.

Lateral 11: Thompson eases down to the 30 and then throws back to Curry at the 35.

Lateral 12: Curry spins, retreats and give up three yards before pitching the ball to his right to Tomlin at the Millsaps 41.

Lateral 13: Tomlin angles for the right sideline and is hauled down at the 30, but not before getting off a desperation flip to Hooten.

Lateral 14: Hooten, not wanting the ball now any more than he did before, immediately passes off to Maddux at the Millsaps 30.

Lateral 15: Maddux is immediately leg-tackled, but as he is falling, he managed to get a off a weak pass back to his left in the direction of Curry, who picks up the ball on one bounce at the Millsaps 34. Curry races through the strewn Millsaps defense to score the winning TD.



SCREEN IMAGES COURTESY OF TRINITY UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS
The referee signals touchdown after Riley Curry dives into the end zone giving Trinity a 28-24 victory against Millsaps College, ending a 60-yard play that included 15 laterals.

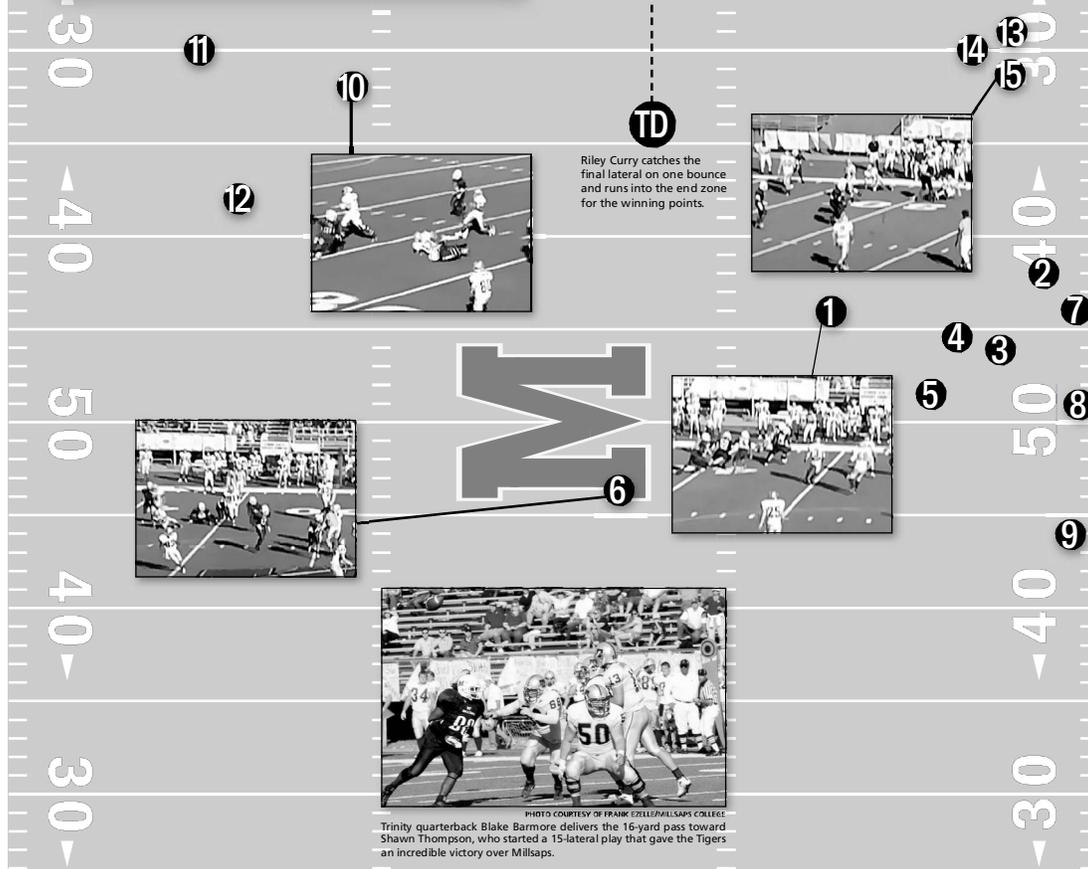


PHOTO COURTESY OF FRANK EXELLE/MILLSAPS COLLEGE
Trinity quarterback Blake Barmore delivers the 16-yard pass toward Shawn Thompson, who started a 15-lateral play that gave the Tigers an incredible victory over Millsaps.

THE MISSISSIPPI MIRACLE PLAY CALL

Trinity's 28-24 victory over Millsaps on Saturday in Jackson, Miss., attracted national attention because of a crazy, game-ending play. With Trinity trailing by two and two seconds remaining, the Tigers snapped the ball at their own 40-yard line.

First, quarterback Blake Barmore passed to wide receiver Shawn Thompson.

Then, 15 laterals later, wide receiver Riley Curry ran the final 34 yards for a touchdown.

Here is the transcript of the call by Jonathan Wiener, a Trinity sophomore, and Justin

Thompson, a former Trinity player:

■ **Wiener:** The ball is on the 39-yard line. Trinity obviously cannot kick a field goal.

■ **Thompson:** (Laughing) No.

■ **Wiener:** They're going to have to throw the ball as far as they can, or perhaps...

■ **Thompson:** Start lateraling.

■ **Wiener:**... come up with something else. But there's two seconds to go. The Tigers need a touchdown. The ball is on the (Trinity) 39-yard line. They have to score on this play, or the game is over. (Quarterback Blake) Barmore's got three

wide receivers to his left. And two to the right. He takes the snap.

■ **Wiener:** There's only three men rushing for Millsaps. Barmore throws it over the middle to (Shawn) Thompson, complete to Thompson.

Thompson, looking for a block. He laterals it to (Riley) Curry, and Curry, laterals it again, and it's caught again, and Tomlin, now on the lateral.

■ **Wiener:** Another lateral to Thompson. And he laterals it back to (Brandon) Maddux on the other side. Maddux, looking for a block, he fakes, he fakes

the lateral to Curry. Now he laterals it to Curry. Curry's at the (Trinity) 49-yard line. He's dancing around. He throws it back now to Maddux, who throws it across the field to Barmore.

■ **Wiener:** Barmore, looking to run, he's got a block. He's got a convoy. He's going to throw it to Thompson. Thompson, at the (Millsaps) 30-yard line, he throws it back to Curry at the (Millsaps) 35. They're running out of space.

■ **Wiener:** Curry fakes. He's going to lateral it to (Michael) Tomlin.

■ **Thompson:** Go! Go!

■ **Wiener:** Tomlin's got a chance to go. Now he laterals it. It goes to Maddux. Maddux, at the 30-yard line, and now, it's a lateral. And Curry. Curry's still going! Curry's still going!

■ **Thompson:** No way, no way.

■ **Wiener:** Curry's going into the end zone! He's going to score!

■ **Thompson:** It's a touchdown! It's a touchdown!

■ **Wiener:** Curry scores! The game is over! Curry scores! Curry scores! Curry scores! The Tigers are all over him! I can't believe it! Curry scores and the Tigers win! The Tigers win!

■ **Thompson:** Oh, my God.

■ **Wiener:** The Tigers win! They keep lateraling it! And they score! From the (Trinity) 39-yard line. The Tigers win the football game. The game is over. The Tigers, on the lateral. Oh, my goodness! It is over. The team is on the field celebrating. The Millsaps Majors are crushed, understandably so. This football game is over. The game is over.

■ **Wiener:** It might be the most sensational, incredible ending in all of Division III! Oh, my gosh! I do not believe it! That was one of the most miraculous plays in all of college football!

HARRY THOMAS/CTA