

## **The Whats and the Hows**

By David Streich '80

“We found the money that robbers hid in the cave...more than a body could know what to do with...”

I cannot believe that the St. Olaf administration would consider offering an essay contest that is contrary to its very foundation. It's not the “whats” that matter in life; it's the “how”. I'm not referring to the Tom Sawyer “style” that he would throw into his adventures. As Dr.Howard Mueller uttered in an “Existential Philosophy” class: One can be an atomic physicist and know everything possible about an atomic bomb. But, when presented a ticking atomic bomb, if he cannot deactivate the bomb (the how), his knowledge (the whats) is of no value.

So as you sift through all the what's presented by Oles, Huck, Tom, Sal Paradise, Dean Moriarty and I will be drifting down the Mississippi on our raft, gazing up at the Van Gough sky and thinking about the adventures Providence will present to us next...

Sal Paradise utters to Dean Moriarty, “Comparisons are odious.”

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