



Pat Smith and Me

By Royce Alger

There are certain things that are required of a Hawkeye wrestler. Total dedication to the Hawkeye work ethic. Sworn allegiance to the coaching staff and their provisions of technique. And last, but certainly not least, total contempt for the entire State of

Oklahoma, mainly Oklahoma State University. Three simple, and clear rules for a Hawkeye Wrestler.

With that said, you guessed it, ole dad did the unthinkable. I brought the biggest gun in the State of Oklahoma into the Iowa War Room. The year was 1996 and I was

training for the Atlanta Olympics. I was 3rd the previous year behind Kevin Jackson and Les Gutches. Kevin was the defending World Champion from 1995. He collected his 3rd World gold in Atlanta the previous summer. Les was a phenom from Oregon and the young gun of the wrestling