

ODD SQUAD bio. 1993.

There's one spot in Houston that every hip hop head knows about, Soundwaves records over on South Main. Always up on everything, madd stacks of hip hop vinyl...a virtual heaven for the average hip hopper and a meeting place and breeding ground for up and coming rappers, producers, etc...Check behind the counters between the years of '87 and '92, a young DJ Styles (Carlos Garza) at your disposal. Enter Rob Quest, it was there when two of Houston's dopest up and coming producers first met up. Rob would come in with his mom's and comb through the stacks on a regular basis, kick it around a little bit with Styles at the register. Chattering turned to conversation and the two recognized their one common bond, they were beat hounds. Two hip hop fanatics with a penchant for producing...

Rob had been doing a little somethin' somethin' on the serious tip since the 10th grade when he got his first drum machine and started hooking shit up for himself. Checking out Kiss Jam one Saturday morning he heard tell of an upcoming talent competition at TSU. They promised stars and madd exposure, Rob was there.

Heads were buggin' off Rob at the tryouts, a young blind brother with a drum machine and skills on the mic. This interested Devin, a young mc with no beats, and the two hooked up that day. Rob began programming beats for Dev, making tapes and the duo began coming up in the neighborhood. Enter Dexter, Devins homeboy from back in high school (they had a crew called 3D), and what's now called the ODD SQUAD began to take shape.

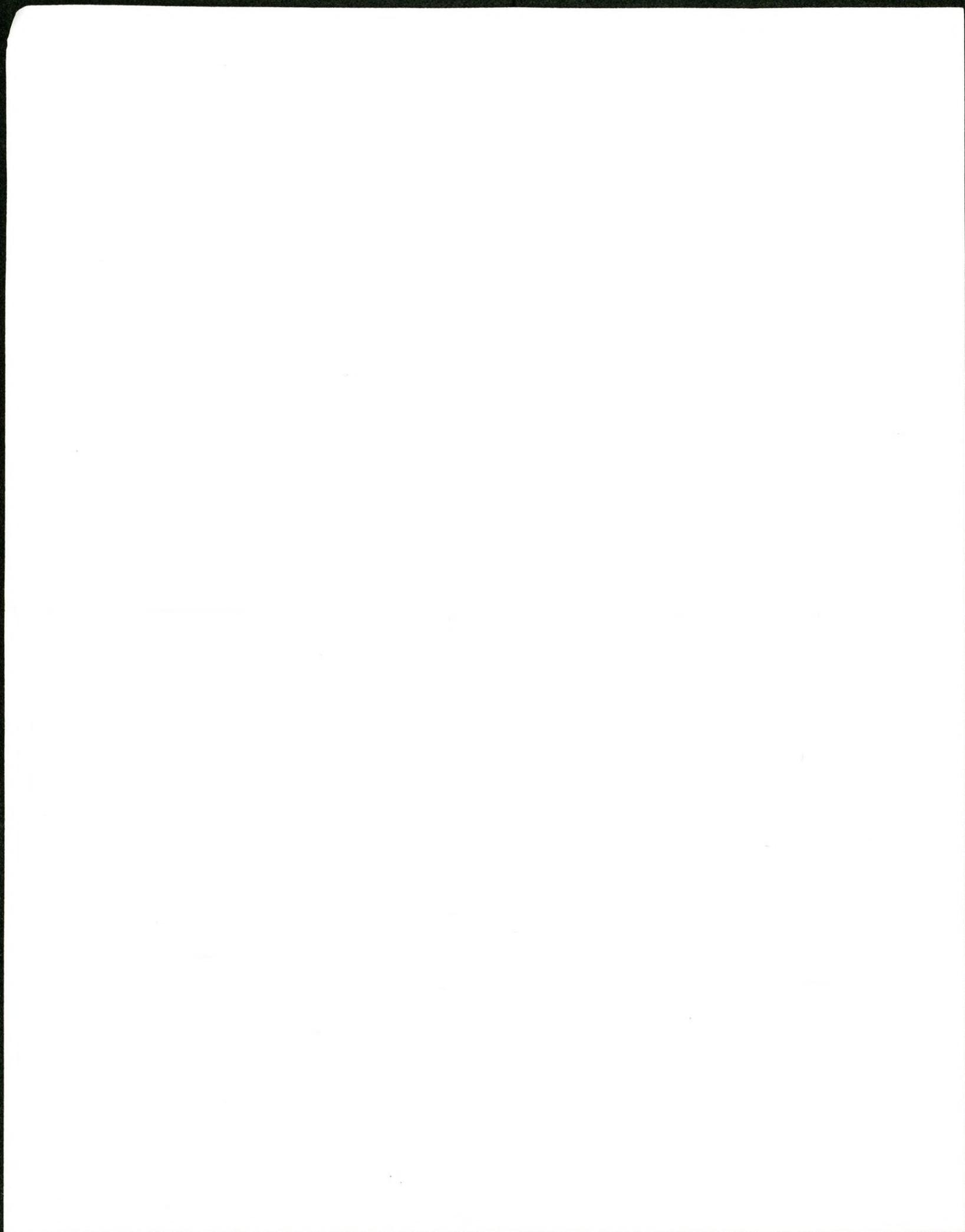
At this point, Rob and Carlos were still kicking it, Carlos however, through his work at Soundwaves, had met yet another up and comer in the DJ/Production field, this being DJ Premier (Gangstarr). Carlos was intrigued with Premiers jazzy production style and crazy skills behind the turntables, thus furthering his obsession with finding the perfect beats and inspiring him to purchase his first SP1200. Rob had also purchased his first sampler and the two began collaborating on the serious tip in early '91.

Carlos had madd records, he'd comb through the crates while Rob'd program and arrange samples. The guys met up with David Blair, a brother with a lot of equipment and cut a four song cassette, just for fun...

The guys screwed around for a bit, never taking what they had done too seriously. Still doing small gigs and talent shows, it was at a contest at Houston Community College where Quest hooked up with an old friend and gave him their tape. That man was Crazy C, one of Rap A Lot's producers. C in turn gave the tape to Rap A Lot's president, James Smith, who recognized a quality in the young quartet. These guys were different. Still street, still befitting a hardcore rap audience, only...different.

Imagine their surprise when Rap A Lot contacted them about making an album, the kids didn't even have a name, never really expected to get serious and actually sign a contract. The four bounced names off each other for a bit, but the ODD SQUAD stuck. It best defined this band of hip hop deviants amidst their hardcore peers, and the deal was done.

Working on and off for the last year on their debut album entitled "FADANUF FAERYBODY" (Fat Enough For Everybody) Rob, Dev, Dex and Styles are now poised to hit you with some of the phattest beats and illest lyrics to ever emerge from the south. Styles and Rob, along with N.O. Joe have pieced together one of the jazziest, funkier, hardest hitting Rap A Lot LP's to date. Couple that with the witty lyrics of Dev, Dex and Mr. Quest once again, along with engineer Mike Dean on live bass and keys on a couple of tracks, and you've got the difinition of dope. Straight outta Houston, blowin' domes world wide, the ODD SQUAD are ready to take you by storm.



Robert McQueen aka Rob Quest...beats, rhymes, the whole nine. Age 21.

Picture a young kid, stomping around the bone hard Hiram Clarke back around 1986, you're typical junior high street stomper. Not a lot of cares, just fuckin' around making trouble, observing the hip hop culture and admiring the underground heavies as they payed dues and came up in the business. Biz, Ultramagnetic, Run Dmc, The Fat Boys...Rob liked the ill shit. Your typical young brother just kicking it, until one day Rob McQueen was forced to take a long, hard look at his life.

Rob was struck in the back of the head by a steel pipe in the seventh grade. The blow caused glaucoma (which is pressure on the optic nerves) which in turn formed cataracts and caused Rob to begin losing his sight.

He saw rap as an alternative, something to do with his life. Soon after, he formed his first group, The B-Boy Crew, and beatboxed and rapped his way up the ladder to success. Later, around the 10th grade, Rob got his first drum machine and entered a contest at TSU. It was there that he met Devin, and the ODD SQUAD began to take shape.

Devin Copeland, you can call him Dev...vocal manipulator. Age 24.

Check Devin. Originally outta St. Petersburg FL, Dev and his family made the big move to Houston when Devin was in the sixth grade. A young break-dancer since its inception, Dev began rhyming when he entered Milby High School in the 9th grade and met Dexter. The brothers started kickin' it, gettin' full and soon after formed their first crew, 3D, with the help of Dexters brother.

They rapped, danced, popped, tripped, got busy around the neighborhood and in the hallways at school, until it came time for Devin to move away. Dev and his family packed up and moved out to East Texas, forcing 3D to split up and driving Devin Copeland crazy. His former antics became an obsession. He set two goals for himself: one- he wanted to make a record, two- he wanted a car, a Cadillac Seville. He saw the GETO BOYS coming up outta Houston and began itching to return.

Soon after, Dev made his way back to Houston and began staying with Dexter. KTSU had announced a talent competition coming up featuring Kurtis Blow and the Fat Boys, Devin decided to enter. It was there where he met Rob, a young brother with a drum machine. They started kicking it around a bit, and later moved in together, laying the foundation for the ODD SQUAD.

BIO

FOR

ODD SQUAD



Carlos Garza aka DJ Styles...beat selector, cut creator. Age 25.

Born Carlos Garza in Reynosa Mexico, 1968, a young DJ Styles and his family made their way to McAllen TX very early on in his life. After a bit of shuffling and moving back and forth, Carlos and family made their way north and settled in the heart of Houston TX. Carlos embraced the hip hop culture early on, began breakdancing and followed the genres early pioneers...a friend would bring tapes to class back when they were still in elementary school, and Carlos and his partners, "The Dynamic Crew" (Carlos was known as Pacemaster) would wreck shop early on in their young lives. Little did they know what great effect this music and culture would have on the years to come.

The Dynamic Crew soon added a DJ to their roster and it was at that point where Carlos was first turned on to mixing, blending and scratching. Garza purchased his first set of turntables (some old Techniques) and a Realistic mixer and began DJing house parties and high school events. His favorite hunting ground for new releases was Soundwaves Records on South Main, where he soon after got a job. This was early 1987.

There he met a lot of DJ's and radio personalities, as well as Rob Quest. At the time, Carlos was just experimenting with old breakbeats and constantly buying vinyl. He started talking with Chris Martin aka DJ Premier, who at the time was attending Prairieview A&M and just beginning his career as DJ for Gangstarr and as world renowned hip hop producer. Premier schooled Carlos on the finer aspects of the industry and inspired Carlos to really take a serious look at breaking into the business. Premier left for NYC and soon after Carlos purchased his first SP1200 and really started getting serious with Rob Quest and later with his partners Devin and Dexter. Another brick in the ODD SQUAD foundation.

