

Tim Washington aka King Tim the III, was a Radio DJ/ Personality. He was well known for spinning records on the radio. During his radio slot, he would talk over beats like Dj's did in the Bronx and Harlem. While the Fatback Band was recording in the studio for their next album. Bill (Group leader/Producer) felt there was something missing and that they needed something new. A member of the group (Avery) said "I know a guy that can Rap, he lives in the projects". Bill said "Bring him in tomorrow night". When King Tim III came into the studio, he dropped some lyrics on the track and the pieces to the puzzle just fit. The Fatback Band asked King Tim to rap at their live shows....and he did. King Tim III had a smooth party style of rap, similar to Coke La Rock, Eddie Cheba, DJ Hollywood and LoveBug StarSki. He dazzled the crowds with a strong rap voice and delivery.

On March 25, 1979, **King Tim III released the first commercial rap record** with the Fatback Band on Spring records.

The Fatback band was established in New York 1970 and were looking to mix funk with

Hip Hop/rap to appeal to the younger audience. It was an experiment that became a huge success.

The song was a hit, it reach top 25 on the record charts and King Tim III became a household name.

The song Personality Jock was the first rap song on the billboard charts.

The record was originally on the B side, but because of it's huge success it was flipped to the A side on the Catch the beat track.

The Fatback Band is most known for their Top Ten R&B hits, "(Do The) Spanish Hustle", "I Like Girls", "Gotta Get My Hands on Some (Money)",

and "Backstrokin'". The band was arranged by Bill Curtis and originally had eight members. The band was similar to the Jimmy Castor Bunch.

In 1980, King Tim III & the Fat Backband released their second rap single "Charlie Says".

The song was made for the Roller skating party crowd and was heard at many roller skating rinks.

However, The single did not have as much success as the first release.

Needless to say, King Tim III was the first rapper to release a successful commercial rap record EVER!!!! (and he used his own lyrics)

Written by Tony Tee aka Tony Paris