Junior Panorama finals

St Margaret's tops again

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YOUNG talent was at its best during the finals of the Junior Panorama competition which took place at the Queen's Park Savannah, in Port of Spain yesterday.

Though the competition got off to a late start, after more than nine hours of music, it would be the youngsters from St Margaret's Boys' Anglican School—last year's champs—who would again walk away with the title in the primary school category and bragging rights for the next 12 months.

St Margaret's drew screams and cheers of approval from the crowd during their performance of "Pan Army" which was composed by Len "Boogsie" Sharpe.

They managed to secure a total of 262 points, 20 points more than their closest rival—Malabar RC School Steel Orchestra—which placed second with their rendition of Austin "SuperBlue" Lyons' "Ethel". Placing third was Mafeking Government Primary School with 238 points.

Also sharing first-prize glory was St Francois Girls' College with their performance of "How We Coming" in the secondary schools category followed by El Dorado East with "Big Showdown" and Bishop Anstey High School East and Trinity College East (BATCE) with their rendition of Destra Garcia's "Calling Meh".

With 32 sides competing in three different categories, Primary, Secondary and Under-21, the judges had the task of tallying the points based on general performance, arrangement, rhythm and tone.

Eight Under-21 orchestras orchestras also performed at the "Big Yard" as the competition went under lights last night.

The results for that category announced last night were:

- 1st - Success Stars Pan Sounds (281)
- 2nd - bp Renegades (278)
- 3rd - St Augustine Secondary (275)

SECONDARY CHAMPS: Pannists from St Francois Girls' College play during their winning performance of "How We Coming" at the Junior Panorama Finals at the Queen's Park Savannah, Port of Spain, yesterday. —*Photos: ROBERTO CODALLO*

TWO YEARS IN A ROW: St Margaret's Boys' Anglican School during their winning performance of "Pan Army" at the Junior Panorama Finals at the Queen's Park Savannah yesterday.

Stickfighting contest aborted; participants want more money

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AN integral part of the Carnival season was almost lost when three gayelles decided to boycott the National Stickfighting Championship last Friday.

The gayelles—St Mary's, Sixth Company and Longdenville—reportedly complained over the prize money being awarded at the semi-final leg of the competition in Arima.

According to reports, two boismen belonging to two of the three teams, grabbed the microphone, in the presence of the Arima Mayor Ghassan Youseph and dozens of stickfighting patrons, and started to complain about the money they were receiving being "smaller" than that being given to other artistes involved in Carnival activities.

Immediately, police had to be called in and the event was cancelled.

In an interview with the *Express* yesterday, Don Sylvester, a National Carnival Commission board member, said the two individual stick men did not discuss anything with their manager, although the manager was the one responsible for liaising with the NCC when it comes to arranging the prize money.

"So like two rogue guys, pick up the microphone and start to say they want more money, and a few other guys start to bawl like 'yeah yeah', that kind of thing, but at that point, our chairman decided to abort the competition because it was just about to start and agreed to refund everybody, so people got back their chits and were notified where to get their refunds," he added.

However, Sylvester said they were able to meet with the members of the other three gayelles taking part in the competition and they have decided to hold the finals next Thursday at Harry's Water Park in Debe at 8 p.m.

"The final is on Thursday and by then, this should be ironed out".

"We had a meeting today and we dealt with some of those issues and there is no more, what you would call 'kuchoor' (bacchanal).

"We have discussed the matter and we will be moving on to the finals on Thursday," he said.

The prize money

In the competition, the team placing first gets $18,000, second place gets $12,000 and third place gets $10,000.

"In another, the King of the Rock, first place is $15,000, second place is $10,000 and third place is $8, 000," Ali said.

The other three teams taking part in the competition are Talparo Gayelle, Puche and Gran Couva.

Single pan semis get underway

Gary Cardinez

NATIONAL Lotteries Control Board San Juan East Side Symphony topped the judges' score sheets at the Single Pan Bands Panorama semi-finals on Saturday night at Victoria Square, Port of Spain—a position they secured from the preliminary round.

Performing in position 14 before an appreciative audience, the band's rendition of Duvonne Stewart's arrangement of "Magician" was near perfect but their overall points slipped by three and half after the judges' final tally.

Playing in the cellar position (33), and led by Chief of Defence Staff Roland Maunday, The Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force Steel Orchestra also gave a fantastic performance.

They played a Robert Tobit's arrangement of "Battle Zone" improving on their preliminary round score by five points.

Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services Steel Orchestra earned a 13 point increase from their preliminary score.

Appearing in position 31, in the early hours of Sunday morning, Fire Services thrilled the audience with their performance of BJ Marcelle's arrangement of "I Don't Mind".

La Horquetta Pan Groove's performance of "Dead or Alive" kept them in the running but they too lost points (9) from their preliminary round.

Also giving a good performance in the wee hours was Hope Pan Groovers from Tobago. They gave a very energetic performance of "It's Showtime".

Saturday night's competition was keen and the judges could not separate several steel orchestras. Several bands tied for the same position.

Five bands tied for position eight, two for position 15 with several other ties in the lower positions.

Sixteen bands will go forward to the finals on March 3, at the Larry Gomes Stadium carpark in Arima.

They will be joined by the Small Conventional Bands in their final at the same venue.

THE RESULTS

NLCB San Juan East Side Symphony	277
Trinidad and Tobago Defense Force	272
Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services	270
La Horquetta Pan Groove	267
La Creole pan Groove	261
Hopii Pan Groovers	260
Gonzales Sheikers	260
All Aces	258
Uni Stars	258
Nu Pioneers Pan Groove	258
Scrunters pan Groove	258
Marsicans	258
Self Help Marines	257
United Sounds	256
Pan Fanatics	255
Curepe Polyphonics	255

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as at 31 January 2011

TTD INCOME FUND	•NAV: 100.1618	•Annualised Rate: 2.53%
USD INCOME FUND	•NAV: 10.1750	•Annualised Rate: 2.27%
TTD INCOME AND GROWTH FUND	•NAV: 98.9365	•Actual YTD Return: 5.94% •Actual 1 Year Return: 12.70%
TTD GLOBAL EQUITY FUND	•NAV: 84.946	•Actual YTD Return: 6.09% •Actual 1 Year Return: 19.16%

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