

# Pan lovers expected to swarm Savannah today

**Pan lovers are expected to turn out in their numbers for today's Savannah Party semi finals at the 45th Edition of the National Panorama, at the Queen's Park Savannah, Port-of-Spain.**

Forty eight bands (16 large and 14 medium) are expected to hit the stage from 10 am.

Pan Trinbago's President Keith "Baldhead" Diaz told Sunday Guardian he expects a smooth running of the event. He asked Almighty God to bless the Panorama and all members of the steelband fraternity.

The spotlight will fall on the large bands as they throw down the gauntlet to the defending champions PCS Silver Stars.

Petrotrin Phase II Pan Groove will lead the charge with Len "Boogsie" Sharpe's "Do Something for Pan!"

Also, the Neal and Massy Trinidad All Stars and Desperadoes will be in the vanguard.

BPTT Renegades will kick off proceedings at Number 1 in the large category.

Afterwards, the small and medium bands will do "their thing."

The Renegades are coming with guns blazing as well as Sagicor Exodus, Starlift and Caribbean Airlines Invaders.

The stuttering South challenge will be led by NLCB Fonclaire (Raging Storm) and TCL Group Skiffle Bunch (The Hill).

Tobago's RBTT Redemption Soundsetters and Our Boys (TKO) will represent Tobago.

T&TEC Tropical Angel Harps is the lone Central representative.

## North Stand tickets went like hot bread

For the first time in the history of the National Panorama semi-finals, North Stand tickets have been sold out early.

The 9,000 tickets priced at \$300 a piece were lapped up between Monday and early yesterday morning by pan enthusiasts across the country.

Pan Trinbago's communications officer Angela Fox confirmed yesterday that the last batch of tickets were purchased by a mad rush of pan lovers as soon as the booths opened early yesterday morning.

"It went in a flash," she said.

However, Fox said, there are still some tickets available for the Grand Stand, which are priced at \$260.

The North Stand can seat 8,000, like before, but for the Panorama semi-finals, can hold

11,000 standing, according to National Carnival Commission (NCC) Chairman Kenny de Silva.

Fox said even though all North Stand tickets were sold out, people kept calling Pan Trinbago's office "this morning querying how they could obtain tickets." Fox admitted that construction of the \$51million North Stand and Grand Stand probably triggered ticket sales.

She said pan lovers normally gather at the semi-finals because of its "partylike atmosphere. It is a different climate from Panorama finals."

Yesterday, Clarry Benn, chairman of Panvesco, the company in charge of ticket sales, said tickets had been going fast and furious all week.

Forty-four steel bands will square off today. (SH)

## Order of Appearance

1. BP Renegades
2. T&TEC Tropical Angel Harps
3. Neal and Massy Trinidad All Stars

4. RBC/RBTT Redemption Soundsetters
5. Solo Harmonites
6. Petrotrin Phase II Pan

7. Groove
8. Caribbean Airlines Invaders
9. Desperadoes
10. Petrotrin Siparia Deltones
11. NLCB Fonclaire

12. PCS Silver Stars
13. TCL Group Skiffle Bunch
14. Sagicor Exodus
15. Starlift
16. Birdsong