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Savannah not place for pan finals

REVIEW By JOHN BABB

THE PRESSURE has been put on steelbands competing in the finals of the Steelbands' Music Festival at the Grand Stand, Queen's Park Savannah.

It is unfortunate that they have to compete in such an atmosphere as was witnessed Thursday night in Category C finals.

Without any help from the acoustics and with an increasing tempo of noise from unruly fans, bands are being put through their paces.

I do not envy Regiment Bandmaster, Eddy Wade, for his job above all is the most difficult.

The atmosphere at the Savannah is a far cry from that of Queen's Hall to which patrons are accustomed.

At the Savannah crowd control is difficult for Pan Trinbago officials, the expense of orchestral music make it difficult to successfully accentuate the expressions of the composer in any serious piece of classical music. In short, the Savannah is a venue to beat pan, not to play pan.

Let's hope Pan Trinbago will learn from its mistake and not stage another Festival finals in Best Village territory. It is an injustice to good steelband

music.

Results of Category C finals: Reed Valley Harps — 158 points; L. J. Williams Nutones — 156; Nestles Ambassadors — 141½ points; Fedchem Symcomites — 137; Gay Crescendoes — 136 and Olympians — 131 points.

The first three bands will go on to perform in the Grand Championships at the Savannah on December 7.

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