

Invaders tops preliminaries

By PETER BLOOD

IT TOOK just seven minutes for Trintoc Invaders to convince 20,000 pan lovers and five judges that Steve Achaiba's scintillating arrangement of Merchant's *Pan in Danger* was the best performed piece in last Saturday's North/East Panorama preliminaries, staged at the Queen's Park Savannah in Port of Spain.

Although this year's preliminaries were held before the South/East preliminaries, and both judges and Jaynotes (band number one) were ready for the show's 1 p.m. start, the first note wasn't struck until 2.13 p.m. Generally, the standard of pan was mediocre with just a few bands giving any indication that they were serious about Panorama 1985.

For most of the show, patrons seemed more contented dancing to the sounds of house disc jockey Donald "Sugar Fingers" Browne than listening to pan. Many bands were disappointing by way of arrangement, quality of sound, and presentation.

The "unofficial" scores for the North/East preliminaries are, Invaders (265), Renegades and Tokyo (260), Trinidad All Stars (256), Desperadoes (251), and Nutones (248).

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