

LOOKS LIKE AN EAST-WEST CLASH

DESPERS OUT—SOLO AND SHELL FRONTRUNNERS

WITCO Gay Desperadoes, last year's Panorama champions, won't be at the Savannah for the finals of this year's contest tonight — and they have only themselves to blame.

The band that studied music in the United States recently, was off to the most impressive start at Friday night's semi-finals, then they stopped abruptly after

By KIT ROXBURGH

confusion between the drums section and the rest of the band.

But Despers was not the only big gun that was silenced after the show. Coca Cola Silver Stars, Guinness Cavaliers, Catelli All Stars and South champs Hatters were also eliminated.

The bands that will be there tonight include little-known Lever Bros. Gay Flamingoes, Y. de Lima Blue Diamonds, Mosco Tiles Fonclaire and Carib Tokyo.

The others are former winners CIBC Starlift and Solo Harmonites

together with Shell Invaders.

Skilful use of their cello pans and a relaxed, easy to listen to style made Invaders popular with the massive crowd which had been subjected to somewhat frenzied pan beating from the bands that had played before.

Then Solo Harmonites appearing just after the Desperadoes fiasco, brought out the beauty of Lord Kitchener's "Play Mas" with an arrangement and precision that for the first time had the audience calling for more — after 15 of the 18 bands had played.

In fact, the winner tonight could very well be between these two steelbands.

The winner gets \$1,500, second prize is \$1,000 and third placed band gets \$750.

In the best dressed band contest, AMOCO Renegades topped the lot with Old Oak Casablanca second and a tie between Lever Bros. Gay Flamingoes and Shell Invaders for third place.

In the Queen of Carnival preliminaries, held after the Panorama contest, Lil Hart, Ursula Lewis, Joan Green and Lydia Assam were impressive.

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'BOMB'

They all went on to the finals, which will also be held tonight.

In San Fernando the National Association of Trinidad and Tobago Steelbandsmen (NATTS) will be holding the annual South Steelband "Bomb" Competition on J'Ouvert morning on High Street between the corners of Chancery Lane and Penitent Streets.

At stake is the Winsure Trophy which was donated to the Steelband Association by the West Indian National Insurance Company.



Despers panmen just before the fiasco.

Now it's bacchanal down in South...

By HAROLD POLIAH

SPOTLIGHT on the Carnival season...and it looks like bacchanal down

cited mass while the bands parade through the streets to the sweet beat of the pans.

Months of hard work, sleepless nights, worry

also be in for their share of anxiety... who will emerge the roadmarch cham?

But while thousands flock the streets an equal