

That Bradley magic will be hard to beat

By KEITH SMITH

WINNING steelband arranger, Clive Bradley, confirmed what thousands of panatics were saying at the end of Fertrin Pandemonium's National Semi-final performance:

"Sailing is one of the greatest tunes I have arranged in years."

Elaborating on the Bradley magic that stunned the Queen's Park Savannah on Thursday Bradley said:

"I always try to keep the identity of the tune. *Sailing*, by its very nature, evokes the image of water, wind, breezes, birds, ripples, twinkles so that it lent itself to a particular kind of

interpretation.

"You see the steelband as an instrument is not lacking in any of the tools, or devices, necessary to create any one of the above once the arranger has the knowledge and the confidence to find them.

"All right, in looking for them and taking unprecedented chances, I ran the risk of losing by attempting to chart new waters, but I am not scared of losing — the only thing I fear is fear itself.

"You see, if we are to continue carrying steelband forward, if we are to prevent every Panorama from being a circle, if we have to break out of the rut every few years some arranger has to put his life on the line."

Bradley said that it was fortunate that the Pandemonium panmen and panwomen would sail with me to the ends of the earth:

"They are a relatively new band and are not as set in their traditional ways as some of the great bands for whom I have worked in the past. Pandemonium has the whole future before them which makes them right for experimentation.

"The public does not realise just how young Pandemonium is: here is a band comprised of teenagers whose parents come to meet them after late practice hours; here is a band many of whose members when I first met them three years ago were hardly crack-shot panmen. I promised to make them winners in three years and, as you have seen, I am well on my way to keeping that promise."

Bradley recognised that the public was seeing 'Pandy's' victory as merely the result of Bradley's arrangement but he insisted that a lot of credit was due to Pandemonium's young panmen and panwomen who dedicated so many hours of their lives to acquiring the skills necessary to interpret his arrangement.

Concluding, Bradley heaped praises on Ray Holman:

"Obviously, I would have an idea as to whom my real competition is and at this point in time I am looking at Ray Holman (Carib Tokyo), Boogie Sharpe (Phase Two Pan Groove) and Ken Philmore (Fonclaire) who, incidentally, are close friends of mine.

They know me and I know them and we have more than respect — we have love for each other. That 'love' however is not going to make it easy for them to beat 'Pandy' and Bradley tonight."

