

Exodus stay on top, but

Boogsie's boys declare war



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LEN "BOOGSIE" SHARPE'S long hours in Petrotrin Phase II Pan Groove's panyard have paid off.

With a mere four days before last Sunday's semi-finals, Sharpe restructured Phase II's Panorama song in the hope of improving their position from the preliminary phase.

It worked, as the band moved up several notches from 10th to third place after Sunday's effort, and earned themselves a spot in the finals with 447 points.

The top eight of the 15 large bands will go into the finals on February 21 at Queen's Park Savannah.

Phase II played Sharpe's composition "We Like to Play."

Sharpe returned to the panyard to fine-tune his 2004 Carnival piece, hours after he was released from St Clair Medical Centre on February 3.

He had spent close to two weeks at the facility after undergoing emergency colon surgery.

Giving Phase II the count late on Sunday evening, Sharpe stayed close

to the band as they went through the new version of the song.

He stuck by their side until the last note was struck.

The band played 13th among 15 large bands. There were also 15 medium bands competing for the eight spots in the finals.

Franklyn Ollivierre, Phase II PRO, said Sharpe reworked the entire tune, adding that rehearsals finished at three o'clock every morning in preparation for Sunday.

Ollivierre said Sharpe also did some work with Angostura Woodbrook Playboyz.

Playboyz also delivered "We Like To Play," to top the Northern Region Single Pan preliminaries.

Defending Panorama champions Exodus, playing de Fosto's "War 2004," maintained the lead after Sunday's semis, earning eight points more than WITCO Desperadoes' 450.

Moving several notches up to secure a place in the finals were TCL Skiffle Bunch, with 436 points.

They tied with Neal & Massy Trinidad All Stars, and at the end of

the preliminary stage were in ninth position.

Exodus had also scored most points at the end of the preliminary judging.

Pan Trinbago President Patrick Arnold said the defending Panorama champions would usually qualify for the finals after playing in the preliminary stage.

However, he said Exodus had asked that they be given the opportunity to compete at the semis, adding:

"They had asked that they give up that right."

Arnold also said that because of the categorising of bands this year, the zonal competitions were squashed.

Pan Trinbago has reformatted the Panorama competition to categorise bands as small, medium, and large.

Bands will be dubbed champions in their respective categories.

Pan enthusiasts give Exodus a great chance at retaining the title, although it will be in the large band category this year.

How they placed

- Conventional bands - Large**
 Exodus 458
 WITCO Desperadoes 450
 Petrotrin Phase II Pan Groove 447
 RBTT Redemption Sound Setters 438
 Neal & Massy Trinidad All Stars 436
 TCL Group Skiffle Bunch 436
 BP Renegades 428
 NLCB Fonclaire 418
 Solo Pan Knights 416
 Katzenjammers 412
 BWIA Invaders 410.5
 Petrotrin Hatters 410
 PCS Starlift 404
 Pamberi 399
 Birdsong 398

- Conventional bands - Medium**
 Excellent Stores Silver

- Stars 445
 Courts Sound Specialists (Laventille) 442
 Valley Harps 441
 Harmonites 434
 Potential Symphony 433
 Carib Dixieland 433
 Parry's Pan School 430
 Petrotrin Siparia Deltones 428
 Melodians 423
 Sforzata 421
 Curepe Scherzando 420
 Tokyo 420
 Five Rivers Modern Symphony 418
 Point Fortin Tornados 416
- Northern Region Single Pan Preliminaries**
 Angostura Woodbrook Playboyz 278
 World Wide Symphony 273
 Woodbrook Modernaires 273

- Laventille Serenaders 272
 Harlem Syncopators 272
 T&T Defence Force 271
 Peake Yacht Services
 Scrunters Pan Groove 268
 La Creole Pan Groove 263
 Gonzales Sheikers 256
 Free Lancers Pan Groove 256
 Spree Simon Harmonics 255
 St James Tripolians 254
 Cocorite West Wind 254
 Uni Stars 252
 Power Boat Scorpion
 Pan Reflections 251
 Nuttin Big Pan Groove 244
 Hi Larks 237
 Bar 22 227
 Music Makers 220
 D Untouchable
 Pan Groove 214
 Caribbean Paradise 212
 Belmont City Kids 181

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