

Junior champs of pan

The South-East Port of Spain Secondary Steel Orchestra is busy making plans in the hope of a fourth-time win at the coming Junior Panorama steelband finals. Captain Cady-Ann Parris and Sean Whiskey, Vice-Captain, are guided by Trevor Valentine, Conductor/Musical Director.

The popular pannists who entertained Queen Elizabeth II during her recent visit to Trinidad are confident about winning on Sunday February 2 at The Big Yard, when competition starts at 10 a.m.

Valentine is confident simply because he sees his band as the most organised school band at the moment, with a tight and demanding practice schedule. Cady-Ann has

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other concerns. She feels strongly about the lack of recognition of the steelband in schools, if not throughout the entire country.

Soft-spoken Sean Whiskey shyly adds that if more of the youth were to realise how good playing music makes you feel, they wouldn't have as many problems.

Raymond Villafana and Ancil Bernard, two handsome members of the band who also visited the JUNIOR EXPRESS, agreed with the others, adding that the success of

their school steel orchestra is due in large part to the support of their sponsors, the Blue Diamond Steel Orchestra, in whose panyard they practise and whose instruments they use.

The band's selection for Sunday's competition is Bally's "Lucifer". For anyone wanting to hear them rehearse, they meet every afternoon at 4 p.m. at 39 George Street, in south-east Port of Spain of course.

Trevor Valentine, Musical Director of the South-East Port of Spain Steel Orchestra, plans his winning strategy with Captain Cady-Ann Parris and Sean Whiskey, Vice-Captain.