

Pan rising in Japan

By SEAN NERO

BRIAN "TIKI" BRUMANT, ace Amoco Renegades tenor pannist, has completed his second pan apprenticeship programme in Japan.

Brumant was contracted last year by Conversation Co Ltd and Helios, after the Sukiyaki Meets the World Festival, to teach summer steel-

pan classes to interested persons.

The Sukiyaki Festival is an annual world music and cultural festival held in the Japanese town of Toyama.

The impressive work by this young pannist last summer secured him another contract this year.

Brumant held a total of 33 classes, five days a week, lasting 90 minutes each session.

On weekends, members of the Sukiyaki National Steel Orchestra assisted the students in revision exercises.

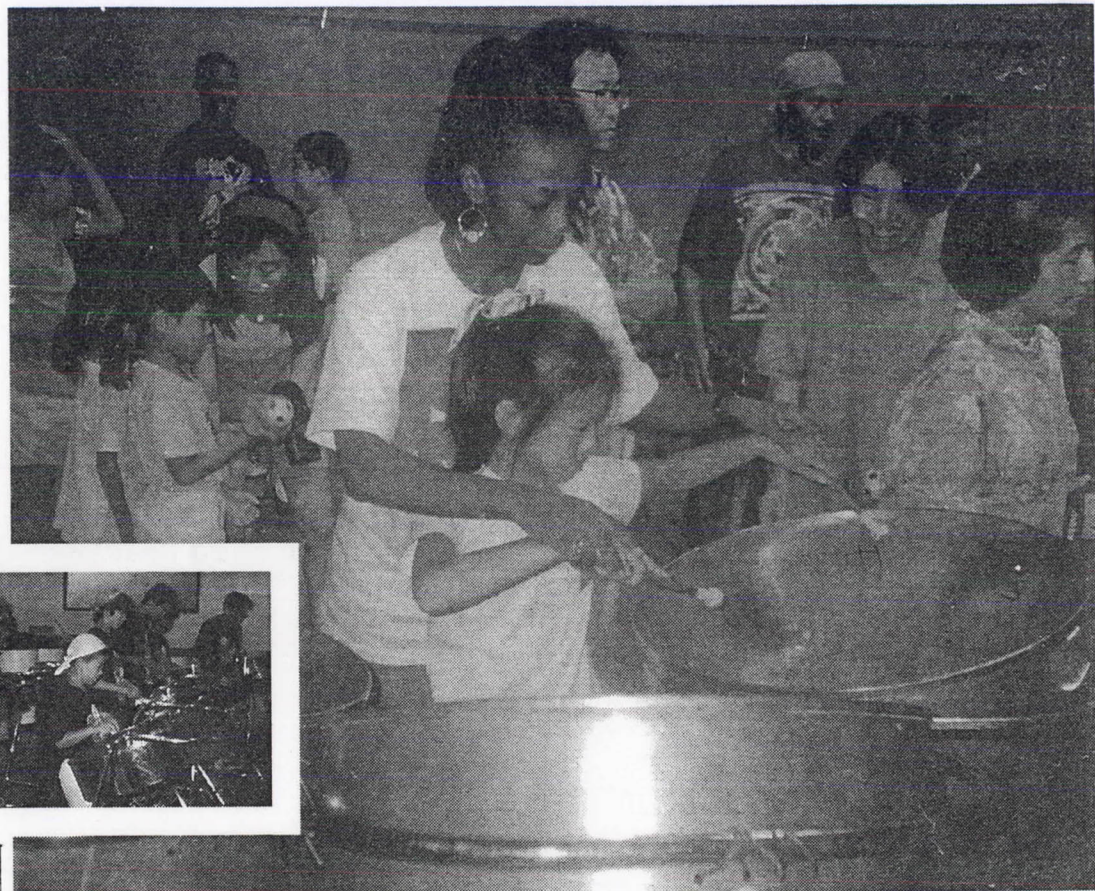
Interest in TT's national instrument is growing across in Japan at a phenomenal rate and Nippon Housou Kyokai, one of Japan's major television stations, is in the process of making a documentary about Brumant's work with

the Sukiyaki Steel Orchestra and Helios.

Agent Jonko Kondo said "this TV programme is very important not only for Helios, but also for the Renegades Steel Orchestra. The Japanese Steel Orchestra is the first beneficiary for assistance by a local government in Japan in supporting the amateur activities of a non-western music group."

Helios, which bought Renegades' entire range of instruments in 1992, has ordered a second set from pan tuner Bertrand Kellman. The instruments purchased four years ago are currently used by Sukiyaki.

Renegades is currently on tour in Japan.



DURING a workshop session, Amoco Renegades cello pannist, Dawn Songster, teaches a Japanese child the rudiments of pan playing. **INSET:** The first national steel orchestra of Toyama, Japan, Sukiyaki, rehearses for the annual Sukiyaki Meets the World Festival.