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'Boogsie' does Panorama double

PHASE TWO MAKES IT 4

By PETER RAY BLOOD

LEN "BOOGSIE" SHARPE continues to rewrite the pages of steelband history with Woodbrook band Phase II Pan Groove.

The latest entry by the Woodbrook duo was made in the wee hours of Saturday morning at the North and East Panorama Finals when Phase II were announced as the 1989 North Zone Panorama champions playing Boogsie's arrangement of Ann Marie Inniss's *Fire Down Below*.

This victory marked the first time in the history of the North Zone Finals that a steel orchestra had secured a beaver trick in these zonal finals. For Boogsie, it was a night when he felt the thrill of double victory as Potential Symphony retained the East title they shared with Curepe Scherzando last year, with a scintillating interpretation of Crazy's *Nani Wine*. According to Pan Trinidad Education Officer and Phase II member Selwyn Tarradath, as far as national Panorama history is concerned, the Phase II/Sharpe achievement duplicated a similar feat previously attained by Vat 19 Fonclaire in the South/Central

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FULL RESULTS

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Potentials win East Panorama

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Zone. Phase II secured their North Zone victories playing *Pan Rising* (1986); *Feeling Nice* (1987); *Woman is Boss* (1988); and *Fire Down Below* (1989).

Based on the points awarded, the band showing the most improvement between preliminary and final was WITCO Desperadoes which enhanced their preliminary score by 18 points. Playing Robert Greenidge's arrangement of Baron's *Somebody*, Desperadoes were almost flawless in their performance and received a tumultuous ovation from the large audience.

Securing second place in the North Zone were Pandemonium with Clive Bradley's arrangement of the same calypso. Pandemonium, presenting the piece at a quicker clip than their preliminary pace, increased their preliminary score by 14½ points.

National preliminary winner Amoco Re-

negades, playing *Somebody* as well, suprisingly placed sixth in the zone final, dropping 15½ points off their preliminary score. Also dropping points and sliding from their preliminary second placing were Trintoc Invaders. Playing Ray Holman's arrangement of Suzanne Wallace-Romeo's *Life's too Short*, the popular Woodbrook band scored 256 points and placed fifth.

The East Zone final, comprising six of next Thursday's 16 national semi-final qualifiers, lasted three hours. With 1988 joint champion Curepe Scherzando eliminated at the preliminary, it was left up to Potential Symphony to secure the East title for Boogsie and the people of San Juan.

All of the eight East Zone finalists managed to equal or improve on their preliminary scores, with Potential enhancing their preliminary total by 10 points. Scoring 254 points, Sangre Grande Cordettes placed second among the east finalists, playing a

beautiful Jit Samaroo arrangement of Inniss's *Going to Toronto*. Also showing improvement on Friday night were Solo Harmonites, securing 253 points to place third with their Earl Rodney arrangement of *Somebody*.

In comparison to the national preliminaries, the turnout at Friday night's final was noticeably smaller. The programme began 90 minutes after its scheduled start and the last band never performed until 3.50 a.m., with the results being announced 20 minutes later.

In an almost fatal incident, two members of Solo Harmonites were reportedly injured when the pan racks atop one of the trucks transporting pan for Solo Harmonites hooked overhead electric wires, knocking both men off the vehicle. Pan Trinidad president and Harmonites manager Owen Serrette said that both panmen were hospitalised in a serious condition.