

Hundreds brave rain for steelbands show

HEAVY showers of rain failed to dampen the enthusiasm of hundreds attending the preliminaries of the Steel Band Panorama at the Queen's Park Savannah yesterday afternoon.

As the rain fell, scores of persons rolled and jumped happily in pools of muddy water as the bands paraded before the judges. Forty-one bands participated.

The savannah took on a true carnival atmosphere.

Competitors who were once clean and dry looked and behaved as flour bag sailors and jab jabs.

The muddy conditions created difficulties in the rolling of pan stands but the panmen were undaunted.

Asked what he thought of

the rain, Mr. George Goddard, president of the National Association of Steelbandsmen said: "The rain is the greatest thing. I think the boys are all enjoying themselves in the true spirit of Trinidad."

The Guinness Cavaliers, of San Fernando, displayed superb panmanship when they rendered Lord Kitchener's "My Brother and Your Sister." They had patrons in the bleachers jumping and singing to their pulsating beat and they achieved moments of glory as they paraded before the judges. The band seemed capable of retaining the title.

Nine bands beat Kitchener's "My Brother and Your Sister" and eight played Sparrow's "Obeah Wedding" and "Going Home Tonight."

Twelve bands are to be selected out of those taking part.

Leveller among