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A WOMAN'S TOUCH . . . Gemma Werrell-Sealey a member of Chase Manhattan Savoy's help the boys unload their instruments before a "Pan Session" at Queen's Hall.

'We're doing all right'

says Martin Albino, a teacher whose pupils range from six to thirty years old

MARTIN ALBINO is a teacher extraordinary. He teaches infants at an elementary school to read and write during the day. At night he teaches members of the Chase Manhattan Savoy's the intricacies of beating pan.

Ask him what is his first love, and he would undoubtedly tell you music. Even his parents were unable to get him to tear himself away from the steel-band movement when he became firmly attached to it about 10 years ago.

Albino's versatility extends to the piano, drums, bass.

Formerly known as Torrid Zone, Savoy's, of Laventille, was always a "good band," which, while never reaching to the very top, was always able to hold its own at competitions, whether Panorama or steelband Festival.

Last year Savoy's was second in the Bomb competition ("Hallelujah Chorus") on the road, and was third

in the best-beating steel-band section. The year before it placed fourth in a similar competition.

The band placed second in the race for the Prime Minister's trophy.

Albino was just being modest when he said: "We are doing all right. We are getting ourselves known."

At school, Albino teaches children between the ages of six and seven. At the pan yard, where he does all the "students" ages range from 14 to 30.

For Panorama, Savoy's is coming with what Albino considers a "unique" arrangement of the tuner and arranging of tunes, his bass pans which will improve the quality of the sound.

"In arranging," he said, "I look for something out of the ordinary, something which I feel sure an other arranger would think of. This, I think, is the reason why we have been able to achieve the success which we have."

About the other players, Albino said: "I think we got a nice group of talent. As long as we continue as we have been—and I think we are doing all right—we will continue to maintain our popularity."

The band's manager is Patrick Thomas, inner Hiller Road.

What does Albino think of the band's chance at Panorama? "We think this will be our best year."