

South panmen go for tunes by Kitchener and Sparrow

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A "HASELY CRAWFORD" Carnival it will be in 1977 if the South Trinidad Panorama preliminaries is a fair indication of Road March potential.

And it is the two most prolific calypsonians in the business who are out there in the field vying for Road March honours with "Haseley Crawford."

Kitchener, indisputable Road March King of all time and Sparrow, self-styled Calypso King of the World, have both paid tribute in Calypso to Trinidad and Tobago's first Olympic Gold Medal winner, dubbed the "Fastest Man in the World."

But it was Kitchener's version that was out front in the field at Skinner Park, San Fernando yesterday.

A little past the half-way mark of the South Panorama Preliminaries it was played by four steelbands as against the one chalked up for Sparrow's version.

Kitchener's "Jaws" was played three times yesterday up to half-time and his "Sparrow Thief the Mango" twice.

The Road March veteran also had two other tunes, "Republic Dance" and "Junior Carnival Queen," sharing the Skinner Park stage with heavy Road March contenders like Short Shirt's "Tourist Leggo" and Sparrow's "Tell San Fernando."

Fifteen out of the 23 steelbands which started performing from 11 a.m. yesterday are to be selected for the semi-finals to be held at the same venue on February 4.

Then it's on to the February 10 finals at which one of eight bands will be chosen South Panorama champs for 1977. First prize — \$4,000.

Up to 6 p.m. yesterday, with

plus crowd, many of the top bands were still to come. Among them, 1976 South Panorama champs, Stag Potlatoire, T & T's Motown, Damus Organettes and Tri-tone Sun Valley.

National Panorama vice-champions, Maritime Life Hatters, was among the early bands, sending the Park's biggest Panorama crowd in fits of pre-Carnival jubilation with a

rocking rendition of Kitchener's "Republic Dance."

Gerald Oliver, chairman of the southern arm of Pan Trinidad, Panorama organisers, described the preliminaries as "quite successful bar the shorting."

Deputy Police Commissioner Gordon Mark, Head of the Southern Division, said no serious incidents were reported.



Photo by LINDA GUNDA

HATTERS TAKE THE STAGE

MARITIME Life Hatters, former Panorama champions and one of South's top steelbands, caught yesterday going through their panning paces with Lord Kitchener's tune — Republic Dance.

hands that paraded before the judges in the South Zone Panorama Preliminaries held at Skinner

nessed by thousands of pan enthusiasts.

Hatters, like the other steelbands, was vying for a

Semi-finals as well as the National Preliminaries, scheduled to come off at the Queen's Park Savannah on February 6. (Another picture from South Panorama

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