



LIMBO LIKE THIS: AN AMERICAN WOMAN gives a very convincing display of the Limbo at Arnoco Renegades panyard on Thursday evening. She is a wife of one of a group of gas buyers invited to Trinidad by Cabot Gas, one of the partners in the proposed LNG plant. Photo by LESTER FORDE.

## Two Tobago bands qualify for Panorama semi-finals

By REY DAVIS

RETIRED local army officer Edward Wade saw his arrangement of calypsonian Preacher's *Raise Yuh Hand* land T&TEC East Side New Dimension the topscore in Tuesday

night's Tobago Panorama at the Shaw Park Cultural Complex in Scarborough.

The 426 points earned in the six-band preliminary competition also qualified the Belle Garden band for a place in Sunday's national semi final in Trinidad.

T&TEC East Side beat Mt Pleasant's Carib Dixieland into second place. Dixieland who played Toney Trim's arrangement of Len "Boogsie" Sharpe's composition *Mind Yuh Business* polled 408.5 points and booked a semi-final place.

The two semifinalists come to Trinidad today to ready for tomorrow's Savannah show. On Wednesday Carib Dixieland drew #10 and T&TEC East Side #16 in the order of appearances for Sunday's semifinal at the Queen's Park Savannah.

Redemption Sound Setters of Bethel, rendering Jerry Stewart-Winston Gordon's combined arrangement of *Pan In A Rage* finished third in the Tobago preliminary with 404 points. Its score was out of line for a national semifinal berth but made it a qualifier for Tuesday's "Small Bands" final in Trinidad for the second year running.

Redemption Sound Setters joins Trinidad bands Arima Angel Harps, Belmont Fifth Dimension, Moods, T&TEC Power Stars and Simple Song for the "Small Bands" finale. Its calypso tune of choice is a composition of The Original De Fosto Himself.

Mello Harps, also hailing from Bethel, gained fourth place with 390 points for Kenneth Guppy's interpretation of *Mind Yuh Business*.

Accomplished Trinidadian steelband music arranger Jit Samaroo did not enjoy a similar leading call for Scarborough band Our Boys as he did last year. Melanie Hudson's calypso *Jumbie* which Samaroo arranged for Our Boys drew the 75-player band 380 points for fifth place.

Our Boys who was upstaged by champion T&TEC East Side in last year's final aims for a reversal of fortunes in next Thursday's final, also carded for Shaw Park.

Patience Hill's West Side Steel Orchestra with *Pan In A Rage* finished sixth with 363 points.

Title-holding Hope Pan Groovers, pounding out Anthony "Pan Jumbie's" arrangement of Iwer George's *Yes Iwer* with passion, topped the five pan-round-the-neck bands with 230 points.

Pan Groovers who will bid to maintain its lead

Mason Hall's Dem Boys (222 - Kitchener's *Doctor's Daughter*), Scarborough's Pan Fanatics (213 - Yohan Popwell's arrangement of *Mind Yuh Business*) and Patience Hill's *Natural Mystic* (180 - Ricky Williams's own composition and arrangement *More Iron*).

Rhythm Tigers played but was not scored for failing to meet the required player count. Tobago East Stars of Charlotteville defaulted.

An appreciative crowd of homesters and tourists

lapped up the musical mix, encouraging Tobago Steelbandsmen Association chairman Robert Marshall to say "it was fair patronage on a tough night."

The order of appearances for Thursday's final — Traditional: 1. East Stars; 2. Natural Mystic; 3. Pan Fanatics; 4. Rhythm Tigers; 5. Dem Boys; 6. Hope Pan Groovers; Conventional: 1. Carib Dixieland; 2. Mello Harps; 3. T&TEC East Side New Dimension; 4. Our Boys; 5. Redemption Sound Setters; 6. West Side.

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