

Tobago bands vie for final Panorama spots

By TERRY JOSEPH

FIVE steelbands will line up in each of the two categories tonight as the Tobago zonal Panorama finals and last leg of the national preliminaries gets underway at Shaw Park from 8 p.m.

At the end of the contest, the points awarded to Tobago bands will determine whether those orchestras who are on the trailing edge of the current top 20 standings (see Page 7) will qualify for Sunday's national semi-final at the



Queen's Park Savannah in Port of Spain.

The anxiety is more so located in the conventional band category, where two bands (Melodians and Casablanca) are tied at position 19. Ahead of them by just half a point is InnCogen

Pamberi, whose astonishingly low score of 413.5 at Saturday's East zone final continues to raise eyebrows and trigger debate in the steelband fraternity.

But tonight in Tobago, where Panorama is a different kind of competition, the bands who appear will not simply be playing for group supremacy but stoutly representing their communities.

Last year, village folk appeared at the zonal final sporting T-shirts which reflected both their relationship with the bands and the villages from whence they came.

TOBAGO ZONAL FINAL Order of Appearance

■ SINGLE-PAN BANDS:

1. Pan Fanatics (Bacolet) - "Toco Band"
2. Hope Pan Groovers (Hope Village) - "Kitty Cat"
3. Panthers (Golden Lane) - "Tune for Pan"
4. Dem Boys (Mason Hall) - "Ting Tang"
5. Natural Mystic (Patience Hill) - "A For Apple; B for Bat"

■ CONVENTIONAL ORCHESTRAS:

1. Redemption Sound Setters (Bethel) - "Ting Tang"
2. Our Boys (Scarborough) - "Play My Music"
3. Carib Dixieland (Mt Pleasant) - "Toco Band"
4. Buccooneers (Buccoo) - "Toco Band"
5. West Side Symphony (Patience Hill) - "Ting Tang"