

# Solo Harmonites and Exodus heat up for semis

**Gary Cardinez**

"THIS is the Solo I know," the male voice shouted. "They now sounding like a big band," another fan said. These were a few of the sentiments expressed by fans of Solo Harmonites as they listened to the band which was awaiting the judges and Pan Trinbago officials.

Scores of pan music lovers gathered at the Morvant Junction panyard to listen to Solo Harmonites as Pan Trinbago officials paid a site visit ahead of their performance at the Queen's Park Savannah for the Panorama semi-final on Sunday.

With pans tuned by Bertrand Kellman, Solo is playing a Yohan Popwell's arrangement of "Momentum" a song made popular by Chucky.

The band's performance for judge Richard Pierre was spot on and they sounded very much like a band heading to the final.

Further up the East-West Corridor, St Augustine to be precise, hundreds of people gathered at Sagcor Exodus panyard, they too awaiting the judges and officials.

Members of Exodus took nothing for granted and while they waited they went through the paces of the song, sometimes full speed ahead and at times a very slow tempo.

Both arranger Pelham Goddard and drill master Dr Pat Bishop were in the bowels of the band pushing



the players.

Officials at Exodus became very concerned when the clock read 10.30 p.m. and the officials were still to make an appearance. Manager Ainsworth Mohammed was busy on his cell phone making calls to find out what was going on.

When the officials did arrive at Exodus, they apologised saying they went to Birdsong before Exodus.

They explained that the management of Birdsong requested an early playing time because of the young people playing in the band.

When Exodus got down to playing the Ken Philmore/Mark Loquan/Destra's composition, "Calling Meh" they sounded very much like a band on a mission to win. They received a thunderous applause from their fans and well-wishers when they were finished.

The fans who lingered in the panyard also got a taste of Exodus' version of Benjai's "Trini".

Birdsong played Raf Robertson's arrangement of Len Boogsie Sharpe's composition "Do Something for Pan".



**BIG PERFORMANCE:** Yohan Popwell takes players of Solo Harmonites through their paces. —Photos: GARY CARDINEZ



**IN THE GROOVE:** Sagcor Exodus hard at rehearsals before the judges arrive.