

Basie-cally a good concert

By IFAN PAYNE
Music Critic

The Manhattan High School Blue Notes Jazz Bands got *In the Mood* on Friday evening in the High School Auditorium, though it was anything but a *Rainy Day*.

Matter of fact, for an hour and a half there the Blue Note Big Band, under the direction of Bill Harshbarger, and the Jazz Combo got around a whole riff of tunes old and new.

Daniel may indeed be *Blue*, but the Big Band was far from it, clearly enjoying the big, fat sound that it produced. The *Suncat* frolicked and the *Queen* made a *Bee-line* (ouch!) for the honey of *Sweet Georgia Brown*.

Not to be outdone by *Daniel*, *Sunny* also got *Blue* and provided the audience with an opportunity to appreciate the attractive alto sax playing of Scott Taylor who produced a silken tone out of his tangle of brass-work.

This may not have been the Jazz Combo's *Maiden Voyage* but it took *A Train* through some varied sonic scenery, and it was good to hear that next year the High School will have two big bands, two combos as well as a Dixieland band.

Onward and upward!

Trumpeter Steve Warren also did a fine job of strolling over *Chelsea Bridge* during a second set that proved what an adventurous band this is

under Mr. Harshbarger's leadership.

I Don't Get Around Much Anymore, and *Only Time Will Tell* whether the band can continue to keep company with the healthy variety of music that it currently does, picking up fresh young things like *Rossanna*, who is still very much in her fusion years, and dowdy old ballroom swingers who may have seen better days, but somehow a dab of fresh make-up can still catch the eye and seduce everyone except that young *Soho Mojo*, the sly dog, who is busy trying to make it with the *Satin Doll*.

But Lynne Shanline's got her number and gave the old girl a whirl.

As for me, I'm Basie-cally a waltz man and I'm still *Count-ing* on the one *I Blew For You*.