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From the current AGH exhibition, Great Masters Series: Psyche with a Butterfly. Cesare Lapini (Italian 1848- after 1893) marble, Battery, 1855. Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto. © 2009 Art Gallery of Ontario.

**LOCAL** News Desk, 905-526-3420

**CLOWNING WITH A SERIOUS MESSAGE**



CATHIE COWARD, THE HAMILTON SPECTATOR

Jasp, left, and Morro, two clowns from Mixed Company Theatre, were at R. A. Riddell school yesterday morning to spread an anti-bullying message to students.

**Let the Games sniping begin**

Hamilton venues too far from athletes' village, Pan Am rival argues

BY JOHN KERNAGHAN

Hamilton's four Games venues are prime targets as Pan Am bid sniping begins.

It follows the submission of the three bids to the Pan American Sports Organization (PASO).

Bogota, Colombia mayor Samuel Moreno is citing the distance from the 2015 athletes' village in Toronto to the track and field stadium, velodrome, volleyball venue at Copps Coliseum and training pool in Steeltown.

He stressed in an Agence France Presse (AFP) report that all facilities in his city will be within six kilometres of the athletes' village and noted some of the Canadian bid's venues mean a trip of more than 30 kilometres for athletes.

Meanwhile, Lima, Peru's mayor Luis Castaneda told a Peruvian news agency his city, which is at sea level, would serve athletes better than the thin air of Bogota, located at 2,350 metres above sea level.

And a high-profile sports figure in Peru reacted to criticism of Lima as a suitable site with a broad assertion that southern Ontario and Bogota cannot compare with the infrastructure, safety, "serviceability" and beauty of the Peruvian capital, AFP reported.

Arturo Woodman, head of the Peruvian Institute of Sport, was responding to claims of the Colombian Olympic Committee president that Lima is not prepared to host 5,000 athletes in 30 sports.

Toronto 2015 bid officials haven't seen copies of the rival bids and aren't about to enter the sniping.

"This is a friendly process and we've made our bid book available to the other bid groups," said chairperson David Peterson.

He's keen to look at the rival documents, which haven't reached Canada yet, but says Toronto 2015 has a general idea of what Lima and Bogota are proposing. Peterson says his team will press its bid's positive points and leave it to the

PASO evaluation commission to grade the other bids.

Michael Fennell of Jamaica, PASO first vice-president, said he hadn't heard concerns about Hamilton's facilities and would wait for the commission's report.

But Steve Stoute, head of the Barbados Olympic Committee, said the 45-minute commute from Toronto to Hamilton's venues could be a problem for some PASO voters.

"My view is it won't be a big factor. I've seen the Toronto bid book and it is very impressive."

Stoute said the southern Ontario plan has advantages in that many PASO delegates know Toronto.

"And there could be a split vote if South American voters have to choose between Lima and Bogota. I think most from the Caribbean will vote for Toronto."

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**Accuracy**

If you see a factual error, please contact the newsroom at 905-526-3420 or by e-mail at [corrections@thespec.com](mailto:corrections@thespec.com).

Red Wings winger Marian Hossa short shrift. He's 6-foot-1, not 5 foot-1 as the wire story reported. We apologize for shrinking him.

**Corrections**

A story in yesterday's Spectator gave

A story in yesterday's Spectator reported the wrong day for the abduction of a Six Nations child. The 12-year-old girl was taken Friday

night. We apologize for the error.

A story yesterday about the Da Vinci Detective receiving an honorary degree from McMaster University misspelled Maurizio Seracini's name. We apologize for the error.

**Lotteries**

**Yesterday**  
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Jan Lisiecki, piano  
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**SAT. JUNE 20**  
**A Fifth of Beethoven**  
Valerie Tryon, piano  
Valerie Tryon performs Franck's Symphonic Variations and Hamilton composer David Fawcett's Piano Concerto. Beethoven's immortal Fifth Symphony rounds out this programme.

**SAT. JUNE 27**  
**Mendelssohn Meets Beethoven**  
Shoshana Telner, piano  
The 200th anniversary of Mendelssohn's birth. Pianist Shoshana Telner performs the composer's beautiful Piano Concerto No. 1. We also hear Beethoven's rousing 7th Symphony

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