

Morgan Boyle Park tennis bubble bursts

The proposed Morgan Boyle Park tennis bubble has burst, and residents in the neighborhood of the park can relax.

Richmond Hill Council agreed Monday night that the tennis issue, which has been the source of heated arguments for several months, is a **Doors won't open in their yards, Kinnear agrees**

Bob Holland 17 Yongehurst Dr., Richmond Hill said he received a verbal agreement that the doors of the proposed auto body shop at Kinnear Pontiac Ltd., on Yonge St., would not open onto residents' backyards.

Peter Kinnear agreed to the arrangement after a meeting with people from the Ministry of the Environment, said Mr. Holland.

"I was lucky enough to have the time and the energy to push for a change in plan, but if I had not voiced my concern, it is quite possible that the auto body shop would have been built as initially designed", he said.

"The body shop will most likely be built but at least the doors won't open onto our backyards", said Mr. Holland.

Electricians delay mall

The opening of Markham Place, "is completely in the hands of the electricians," says Murray McDonald, mall manager.

The mall at Don Mills Road and Steeles Avenue was originally scheduled to open August 3, then delayed to August 18.

The opening date is "now back to the end of September at least," he said because of the electricians' strike.

Electricians in the Metropolitan Toronto area are striking for a four-day work week.

Work by other trades at Markham Place has "slowed to a trickle. When the electricians go back to work, we will be able to set a date for the opening", McDonald said.

Markham Place will have 42 stores anchored by Sears and Miracle Mart and services and professional offices. Both the developer and tenants are hurting, said McDonald.

"The stores were geared for an August 3 opening and ordered stock that you would expect to sell in the summer. Some have hired staff and have them on the payroll."

Conference visitors tour hospital today

As many as 60 members of the MEDINFO 77 conference now on in Toronto, are expected to tour Richmond Hill's York central Hospital this afternoon.

The visitors, from as far away as Australia, the Far East, Scandinavia, and England, are attending the four-day event, which is the second World Conference on Medical Informatics.

At York central, they will be welcomed by William Lazenby, first vice-chairman of the board.

Dates conflict

'Hi Neighbor' program still on, Lions state

The Richvale Lions Club suffered a minor setback Thursday night at a Richmond Hill Parks and Recreation meeting, but plans for a "Hi Neighbor" night will proceed.

The problem erupted when it was learned the Lions would hold their festivities the same night — Sept. 24 — as the final wrap-up of Richmond Hill's Discovery Days.

Lions president John Bailey told The Liberal Friday, the club would go ahead with its original plans but would work in conjunction with the Civic Improvement Committee, the group responsible for organizing Discovery Days.

Mr. Bailey said he spoke to three organizations Friday, and none had heard of Discovery Days.

Meanwhile, Glen Waugh, chairman of the Civic Improvement Committee, said the group planned to kick off the Discovery Days publicity this week.

The Lions Club wants the people of Richvale to meet their neighbors first,

dead one since the zoning bylaw appears to make no provision for the operation of such a facility, "without second-hand agreements".

Councillor Mike Burnie said he didn't believe council should get involved with the applicant, who wants to build the winterized tennis facility privately.

"We shouldn't custom-tailor our zoning," he said.

Councillor Al Duffy, who is chairman of the town's Parks and Recreation Committee, suggested council look at the zoning in other parks "to see if we have any other problems".

Parks and Recreation Committee met Thursday night and got into the bubble issue.

Councillor Andre Chateauvert wanted to know the difference between a community and neighborhood park.

Parks and Recreation Director David Hamilton suggested a neighborhood park would serve about 2,000 people, be between four and 15 acres in size and not have facilities such as lighting and other conveniences.

A community park, on the other hand, would serve more than 5,000 people, cover between 10 and 25 acres, and have all facilities necessary for most organized sports and events.

Morgan Boyle covers about 10 acres, Mr. Hamilton said.

Councillor Chateauvert suggested that because there are some facilities in Morgan Boyle, it should be classified as a community park.

"The residents want a neighborhood park," he said. "They can't have it both ways."

Back in June, some 36 residents living close to Morgan Boyle Park signed a petition against the tennis bubble.

Negotiations at standstill in York County

Negotiations between York County Board of Education and its elementary teachers are still at a standstill, despite a closed meeting Monday with newly-appointed negotiator Grant Gillespie.

As a result, the two sides will go at it again in another closed session, Monday, Aug. 15.

Gillespie was appointed mediator last week by the education relations committee.

One of the main differences between teachers and trustees is the issue of having increments in or out of the final presentation to the Anti-Inflation Board.

The teachers would like the increments, which are given for added standings, left out, while the board would like them in.

They are touring the hospital, particularly to see the unique computer system that handles all patient medical information.

The tours will begin with Patient Reception and continue to the Medical and Health Records. The Emergency department will be included if it's not too busy.

There will also be demonstrations of the functions of the computer in the lecture hall and in the business office.

Four members of the executive committee of the South Richvale-Langstaff Ratepayers' Association initiated the petition, and noted that all

who were asked to sign, did so.

At that time, it was evident how serious the hostilities were.

While most who signed the petition

pointed to noise pollution and invasion of privacy as reasons for not building the bubble, one resident threatened to "bust your face if you put it in".

Another commented: "don't need the ruddy thing".

Council Monday agreed to notify the residents of its decision.

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'Discovery Days'

Group is granted \$4,000 but it came the hard way

Members of a committee to organize Discovery Days will have a \$4,000 budget to get the show on the road, but it didn't come easily.

Glen Waugh, Tom Warden and Eric George appeared before Richmond Hill Council Monday night to seek the funds and tell councillors what to expect

during the week-long event, September 17 to 24.

"This will benefit all the people in Richmond Hill," Mr. Waugh said.

The \$4,000 request, at first, appeared to have smooth sailing through council. Mayor David Schiller suggested council support the activity, and said there was no time to refer the matter to committee for further study.

Ward 5 Councillor Bill Corcoran motioned to grant the \$4,000, "if we have the money".

Not sure

But Councillors Andre Chateauvert, Lou Wainwright, Lois Hancey, Marylou Graham and Mike Burnie weren't so sure.

"It's a marvellous idea," Councillor Hancey said, "but it's unreasonable to ask council to make a decision tonight."

Councillor Chateauvert said he wasn't opposed to the event, but he was "opposed to the way we're dishing out \$4,000."

"On the spur of the moment we're anxious to give them \$4,000," he said. "I can't support that kind of procedure."

Mr. Waugh explained to council how the money would be spent.

"The budget was not dreamed up," he said.

Money would be used for advertising in newspapers, posters, possibly a banner over Yonge Street, arena rental, and contingencies.

"No other event has come before council that is for the benefit of all the citizens," Mr. Waugh said. "But we could manage without the funds and hope for a generous press."

That's when it started.

Councillor Graham suggested giving the group \$3,000, and Councillor Chateauvert lowered that with his suggestion of \$2,000.

Knock them down

"You give them \$25 and that's the kind of job you'll get," retorted Councillor Corcoran. "They come here asking our help and we knock them down and take the wind out of their sails."

"The least we can do is our part," he continued. "We do have the money and they should get it."

Councillor Wainwright reminded council of an incident last year.

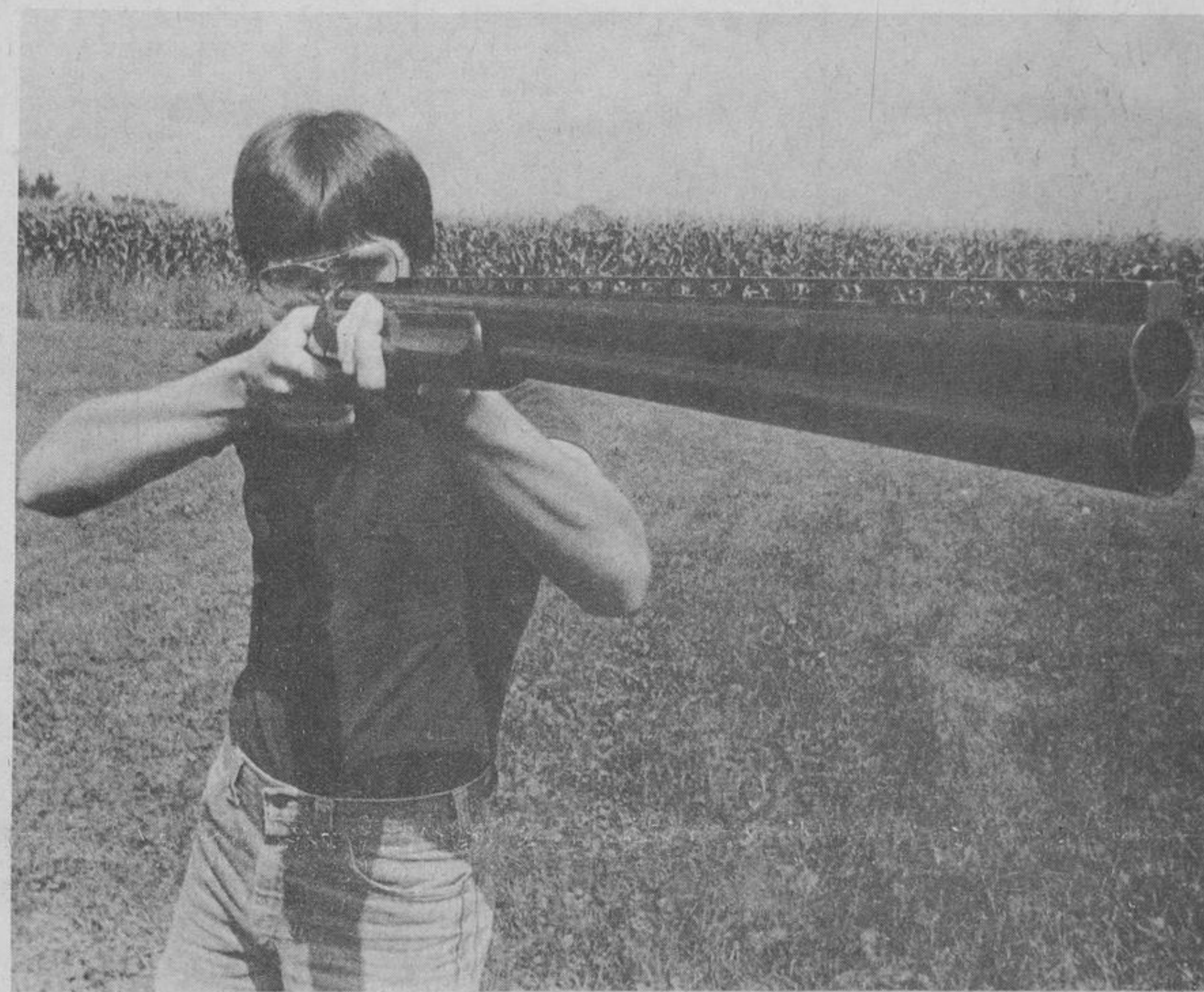
"When the United Appeal came forward, it was pretty difficult to get \$48 from this council," he said.

On the vote for the \$2,000, two councillors, were in favor. The motion died 7-2.

That set the stage for the vote on the \$3,000 motion and it, too, died, this time 5-4.

The final vote for \$4,000, won approval of council by a 6-3 margin.

Councillors John Birchall, Chateauvert and Wainwright were against granting the \$4,000.



Aims for title

George Leary, 19-year-old trap shooter from Gormley, who won the junior event at the recent European Olympic trapshooting

Grand Prix in Belgium, is now aiming at the world championships in France next month. See story, Page B-2.

Council split

Selk case is deferred again

The case of Mr. and Mrs. Sid Dinning boggles the mind.

They're the owners of Selk Industrial Finishes, a company which was destroyed by fire last year, but today is operating without a site plan agreement or building permit.

Richmond Hill Council Monday, after a lengthy debate, agreed to defer the issue again, this time to a council in committee meeting.

Half the meeting would be closed to the public, the other half would include the Dinning couple and solicitors.

Councillor Andre Chateauvert summed it all Monday:

"I'm so damned confused by all the information I've received," he said.

Councillor Lou Wainwright noted the town has been threatening the firm for 168 days "that we're taking them to court".

"But no charges have been laid," he said. "I'm not prepared to put these people out of business."

Councillor Wainwright said one solicitor said the town's case against the company was iron-clad, but the new town solicitor says Richmond Hill doesn't have a case.

Mr. Dinning told The Liberal it will likely end up with Selk taking the town to court to get some satisfaction.

"Even their solicitors can't agree," he said.

The town has argued that Selk Industrial Finishes is a hazardous operation and, therefore, has not issued a permit allowing the company to rebuild.

Yet the company operated for several years prior to the fire as a legal operation, Councillor Chateauvert noted.

"If it was safe at one time, why is it unsafe now," he said. "We seem to be rather vigorous going after this."

Councillor Lois Hancey noted that Selk "has been a corporate part of the town and the Dinnings are ratepayers".

"It is unreasonable to put people out of business because of a disaster (the fire)," she said.

Councillor Chateauvert wondered what council was attempting to accomplish.

"Only after the applicant did something we didn't like did we find it was hazardous," he said. "This council and its staff have to come together to

arrive at some intelligent answers."

In a vote to send the issue to Council in Committee, councillors split 4-4. Mayor David Schiller cast the ballot which deferred the subject to a later date.

Reception 'fantastic' for our Discovery Days

"Discovery Days"—a chance for the people of Richmond Hill to get to know Richmond Hill—is already shaping up to be a big success, according to organizer Eric George.

To date, 54 community groups are definitely planning to participate, with 38 of them setting up displays at the Richmond Hill Arena.

Twenty-one other groups have expressed interest in getting involved, but are not definitely committed.

The week-long event happens from September 17 to 24.

Twenty Richmond Hill artists have been booked for a display called "Art in the Park" which will be set up at the

Mill Pond.

There will be a photo contest, and a "Did you know?" contest.

The trampoline club will put on a display outside the arena, and the Progress Club plans to operate a beer garden in the vicinity.

"How many know we have a Bicycle Club in Richmond Hill," Mr. George asked. "I didn't, until I started working on this."

Organized walks are planned, visiting old homes and new gardens.

Discovery Days "has had a fantastic reception so far," Mr. George said. "Discovery Days can become what the Binder Twine-is to Kleinburg."

Mexican boys say they want to stay here

By JIM IRVING

The question of bilingualism may be a problem to the rest of Canada, but to 12-year-old Carl Koteff of RR 3, King, it hardly constitutes an issue.

Not that Carl claims to be able to speak French, or any other language, but given a few more weeks with his visitors of last week, and he might find he's thinking just as much in terms of sol, futbol and ninas, as he is of sun, football and girls.

For Carl's visitors have been two 12-year-old members of the Sella Mexico City soccer team — Francisco Rueda and Guillermo Sanchez — who were here to compete in the soccer tournament sponsored by Richmond Hill Minor Soccer Association at Crosby Park.

And during that time, language was the only thing the boys didn't have in common at first, but it soon ceased to be a problem, as both sides exchanged more and more words with each passing day, after exchanging various ploys and plays on the soccer field.

In Carl's case, it wasn't all one-sided. Guillermo, or "Memo" as he was called here, was able to speak English and acted as interpreter for his sidekick, Francisco.

However, he wasn't always around and that's when the boys used their own initiative.

"We just kept talking and talking and exchanged words," said Carl, throwing out a few Spanish words here and there just to show how it was done.

He said he wasn't finding it difficult

to learn the words and hoped to be able to keep up the language during the year.

He's been invited to Mexico and the boys have been invited back here for Christmas, so he's anxious to acquire as much Spanish as he can.

Memo and Francisco, who stayed with Carl and his family at King, also want to retain the extra words in English they've learned, plus all the other good memories they have of their visit.

In fact, it seems, they'd rather have not gone back.

"I don't want to go home," said Memo, putting it as bluntly as a child can.

"There's no pollution here. There are more and better things here."

Pollution, it seems, is a constant way of life in Mexico City, where the cars almost outnumber the people.

Said Carl, showing that boys are the same the world over: "Memo has two sisters and he was glad to get away from them."

Francisco, speaking through Memo, said he wanted to know more about Canada. He said he liked the fact that there were fewer cars, and obviously felt that Canada didn't have any bike-stealing problems, always a threat in Mexico.

"There are better people here," he added.

The only problem: he didn't know how to speak the language.

However, he often managed to transcend language barriers with a big

grin, when asked such things as whether he thought the girls were pretty here, and whether it was true his favorite dish on his trip was chocolate cookies and scrambled eggs.

"I tried that," recalls Carl, "But I couldn't get away with it."

The boys also enjoyed their trip to Toronto and the CN Tower and other spots, plus their visit to the Falls in Niagara.

And both the Mexican side and the Canadian side were generous in their appraisal of each other's work on the football field.

"They're much faster than us," said Memo.

"I think you guys are better," said Carl.

Equally impressed with her two

visitors, is Mrs. Koteff.

Besides being highly personable, the boys look after themselves, expecting to make their own beds and wash their dishes.

"I've really enjoyed them," Mrs. Koteff said. "I have three boys, but I could keep these two here; they're fantastic."

Carl nods in agreement, with a far away look in his eye that seems to say he's already preparing for the time they'll be back.

Perhaps this Christmas. Then, when he meets them at the airport, he can show them he's not been idle, greeting them not only with a "Bien Venido", but "Feliz Navidad," as well.

Or, as they say up here, "welcome back" and "Merry Christmas".