

Meatballs star back to school

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TORONTO (CP) — Chris Makepeace is a polite, low-key 15-year-old who lives with his family in Toronto when he can; but it's difficult because Chris is staring stardom in the face.

He went from commercials to movies in last year's Canadian-produced hit Meatballs, playing the part of Rudy alongside Saturday Night Live star Bill Murray.

In a few months, he will be seen in two other recently completed flicks — *My Bodyguard*, with Martin Mull and Ruth Gordon, and *The Last Chase*, with Lee Majors and Burgess Meredith.

But this week he was heading back to Toronto's Jarvis Collegiate and spending time with his parents and two brothers.

"My friends tell me a lot of people at the school are asking about me, so it'll be strange going back," he says. "It might be a little uncomfortable. I mean I can't stop in a place in Toronto without being recognized after 10 minutes."

There is no arrogance intended, he says. "The one complaint I have is that nobody knows my name. To people, I'm 'the kid from Meatballs.'"

Glad to have a break from the long hours of shooting, he wonders how audiences will react when they see that the kid from Meatballs has changed.

"My voice is deeper. I've grown five inches taller. I'm different."

Makepeace: "I'm 'the kid from Meatballs.'"