

Lucari's October Post



One of the best things this month in Germany is the great variety of colors: orange and red in the trees, vibrant green on the fields and a beautiful gray in the sky. The mornings are wonderfully crisp and the nights chilly to the point that I really get in the mood for Thanksgiving. The mounds of leaves lying on the ground around trees bring to life all those times Charlie Brown jumps into a pile of leaves. It is quite an odd experience to have the sun rise at 8 a.m. and set at 4:30 p.m. Going for a walk in the afternoon and taking some pictures is a delightful activity to do on a quiet weekend.

On the 19th I had some big plans. It was time for a concert! The band in question, “Metric! Metric!”, is an indie/alternative/electronica band and their performance was just stunning. I was also able to acquire a limited edition double LP crystal vinyl record of their latest album. After the concert, I also got to experience a little of the Hamburg St. Pauli district at night, yeah....

During the fall break, Wolfgang, Simon, and I took a trip to the state of “Nordrhein-Westfalen” (North-Rhine Westphalia) and visited the cities of Köln (Cologne), Düsseldorf, and Remscheid.



The “Kölner Dom” (Cologne Cathedral) was an obvious first destination. The history, beauty and detail on this cathedral is the most amazing architectural feat I have ever seen. The pictures I took were better than any touristy trinket. Our starting point in Düsseldorf was the TV tower, which is akin to the Sky Needle in Seattle, a great photo outlook over the entire city. Afterwards we had no set destination; so we milled around looking at architecture and really expensive German cars and generally having a good ole time. Each of these city excursions took a day, and the base of operations was the living room of relatives of my host family. Their house in Remscheid is quite comfortable I would say, not overly big but not small, and in the general vicinity of interesting sites and sights.



We returned home just in time for me to finish my Halloween costume. I think I did well for a costume that, aside from some liquid latex, cost only about 10 euros. Needless to say I thought my costume was a success, but sadly I could not go on a trick or treating tour as the Germans are not accustomed to this American tradition.

