

Reporting from Sydney, Australia

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So I have been back in Sydney for about a week now and I am sniffing everyday trying to get used to going from 90-degree weather to about 45. Our seasons are reserved in the Southern Hemisphere. Since I have the opportunity to write for Mount Olive's local newspaper all the way from Australia I figured I should share some information about my home country. I'll bullet point them to make it more reader friendly:

- Australia is actually considered a continent and has a population of about 30 million people (about the same as California), with almost everyone living around the coastline of the country.
- Sydney is a very multicultural city; we have significant populations of Eastern Europeans (from Croatia, Serbia, Italy and the like), Asians (from China, Vietnam, Korea etc.), Pacific Islanders (that would be the people from Hawaii, Fiji, French Polynesia etc.)
- The weather in Sydney is actually pretty similar to Mount Olive, except its never snowed here and not quite as humid.
- Funny enough, a lot of Americans tell me they want to visit Australia, and a lot of Australians want to visit the USA.
- There is no Wal-Mart here. Australia's economy depends on small business.
- I've noticed there a lot of Krispy Kreme's in Sydney now. Like one every block. I remember when there was only one, two hours outside of Sydney and people would drive out there and stock up with ten boxes of donuts.
- Movies used to come out months later here, but now they are pretty much released at the same time.
- Our government is handing out stimulus checks too, and also made the mistake of sending them out to people who have passed away (maybe they just do whatever the US does.)
- I'm not a big fan of that picture of me (I don't know why I did that slight head tilt thing, but I took it a few years ago when I was young and immature). Anyhow, behind me is the Sydney Harbour Bridge right next to the Sydney Opera House. It's one of the landmarks of Sydney and leads into downtown. A big touristy thing to do is the Sydney bridge climb for some awesome sightseeing.

Well until next time...