

Sent: 2003-09-11- 12:00
Subject: Postcard

The Kaibab National Forest is home to the Kaibab Plateau, which ends at the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. It's home to mule deer, golden eagles, condors, and the unique Kaibab squirrel, a brown-bodied cutie with a white, plumed tail. Dawn Boy visited the plateau early this morning. It was in the low 30's. We stood shivering in the parking lot loading the car, hoping to be the first to leave our hovel. Instead, we were being showered with gravel as other customers fish-tailed past. They were in pajama tops and hadn't shaved, or combed their hair. Dawn Boy laughed.



We crossed the Navajo and Hopi reservations on our way to New Mexico. It was another day of boring scenery.



In the Navajo reservation, we saw a ton of *hogans*, 8-sided buildings that are the traditional Navajo living quarters. Today it is often found as a second structure on the home property, used for ceremony. Its single door faces the East so the occupants' first view in the morning is dawn, and has a smoke hole in the center

of the roof. Hogans are constructed of almost any material. This one has logs on the bottom (very traditional) and is finished off with siding to match the house. It's one of the spiffier hogans we saw. Others were old and deserted-looking and are known as *hulk* hogans.



Attention Tony Hillerman fans. We found Jim Chee.



D&S