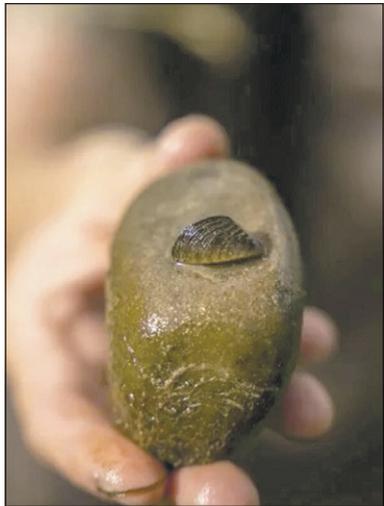


Stopping Southwest invaders

Wildlife and plant experts highlight some of the non-native species spreading through the region. **Page 8A**



Courtesy of Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Bach festival to feature Mozart, too

19th annual Durango Bach Festival, featuring San Juan Symphony musicians, begins this weekend. **Page 12A**



Courtesy of J. Reynolds

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SANTA FE

Jurors watch Mark Zuckerberg deposition in Meta safety trial

Attorney general says company violated state consumer protection laws

BY MORGAN LEE
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA FE – Jurors in a bellwether trial about the impacts of social media on children watched a deposition of Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg on Wednesday that explored what the architects of Facebook and Instagram knew from internal research about the negative experiences of young users and how the company responded.

New Mexico’s attorney general alleges that Meta violated

state consumer protection laws in failing to disclose what it knew about the dangers of addiction to social media as well as child sexual exploitation on the company’s platforms. Attorneys for Meta say the company discloses risks and makes efforts to weed out harmful content and experiences – acknowledging that some bad material still gets through its safety net.

In the pretrial deposition recorded last year, prosecutors confronted Zuckerberg with internal company communica-

tions and emails from platform users spanning back to the infancy of Facebook in 2008 that discuss “problematic” and addictive use of social media.

“Over the past 15 years, users of your products have repeatedly told your company and you personally that they find the products to be addictive, that’s true isn’t it?” Previn Warren, a member of the prosecution team, asked Zuckerberg.

Zuckerberg took issue with the word “addictive.”

“I think people sometimes

use that word colloquially,” he said “That’s not what we’re trying to do with the products, and it’s not how I think they work.”

At the same time, Zuckerberg said he wants to “make sure that we can understand so we can improve the products and make them better for people in ways that they want.”

Zuckerberg went on to concede that he initially set goals for employees to increase the amount of time teenagers spent

See TRIAL, 3A



CURTIS RAY BENALLY/Special to the Tri-City Record

State hoops tournament tips off

Shiprock senior Nicolette Howard brings the ball upcourt and attempts to get past Gallup’s Payton Johnson in the second quarter of the District 1-4A tournament semifinal game on Feb. 25 at Gallup High School. **Page 15A**