

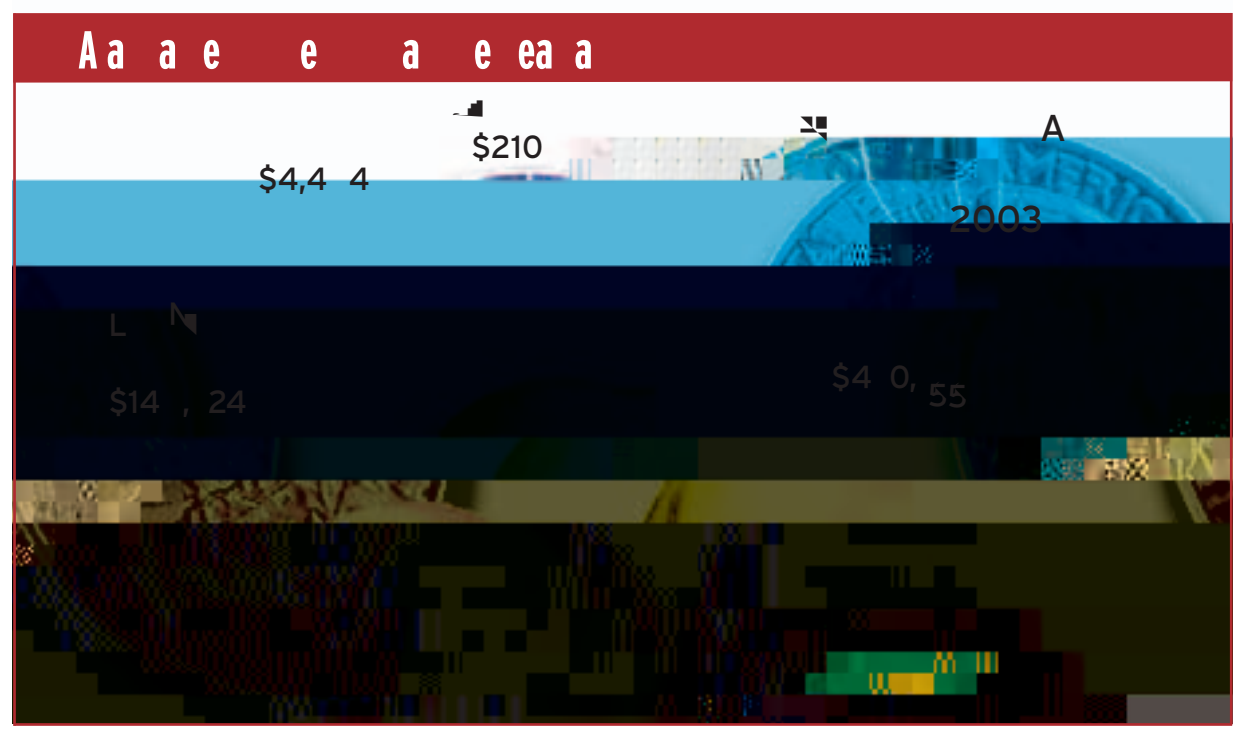
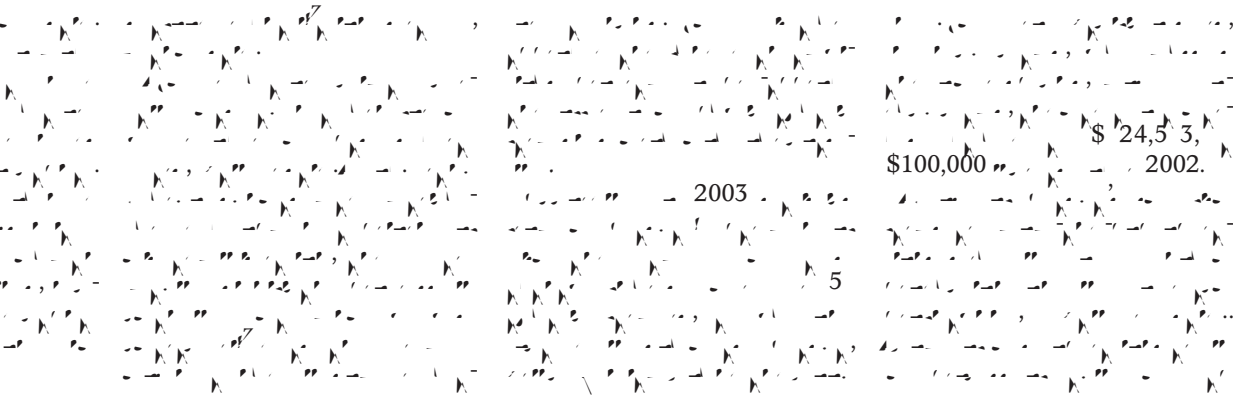


SHELLFISH BOOM COMING?: Alaska remains opposed to fish farms, but more than \$1 million in state aid is going to mariculture, and the sector is poised for growth.

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By Ben DiPietro

Alaska's mariculture industry is poised for growth, with more than \$1 million in state aid going to the sector. The industry is expected to reach \$1.5 billion by 2005, up from \$400,000 in 2003. The state is also investing in research and development to improve production techniques and reduce environmental impacts. Despite opposition from some fishermen, the state is committed to supporting the industry's expansion.



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