Student journalists bring new perspective eing a student newspaper

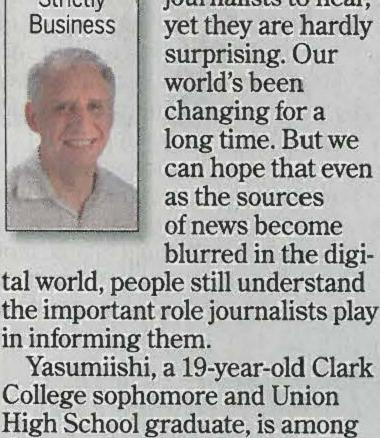
experience these days. Your classmates draw most of their news and information from the Internet and television. They

journalist can be a lonely

have little idea where it all comes from before it enters the maze of Facebook, Twitter, or YouTube. A newspaper? A reporter? Many students don't think about those institutions or people when

they're scrolling their iPhones or learning about politics from humorist Jon Stewart. "My friends don't seem to know what I do and what journalism is all about," says Kyle Yasumiishi, editor of Clark College's student

newspaper The Independent. Gordon Those are hard Oliver words for veteran journalists to hear, Strictly



world's been changing for a long time. But we can hope that even as the sources of news become blurred in the digi-

yet they are hardly

surprising. Our

the young people who still dream of entering the challenging profession. He likes to find stories and then paint a picture with words to make them interesting

and understandable. Other student journalists at Clark feel the same way, yet they worry about what work they might find in the industry beyond college. I recently met Kyle and other staff members of The Independent at the newspaper's office on the Clark College campus. Cami Joner, a business reporter at The Columbian, joined me to talk with the students about a journalistic collaboration between our publications.

Here's our arrangement: The

Independent's writers will report

and write business-related stories

that will be of interest to readers

those stories at The Columbian,

of both newspapers. We'll edit

and both papers will run the

stories on the same day. The

other Wednesday during the

Independent is published every

school year, so readers of The Columbian can expect studentwritten stories on most or all of those days. The student writers also are discussing writing at least one other set of stories just for The Columbian. Mutually beneficial The collaboration began last week with a story about plans for a new science, technology, engineering and math building on the Clark campus. It gives students an opportunity to work with news professionals and brings more readers to their work. The Columbian's readers benefit from stories by young writers with fresh story ideas. At our meeting, we talked about ideas for stories about business, careers, and money management; deadlines and editing

state of journalism in the future. The college newsroom brought back memories of my own time as a college newspaper journalist, in an era when words were pounded out on typewriters and photographers produced black-and-white photos from film in a darkroom. Print had no rival in those days we sneered at the quality of television news. Ambitious, talented journalists plotted career paths from small-town dailies to the few metropolitan dailies offering decent salaries. These days, there are fewer print jobs at both ends of the scale, but new opportunities as

logistics, and — of course — the

our industry adapts with improved online and smartphone products and new digital outlets compete for audiences. After all, people have yearned for information and stories since the beginning of time. Yasumiishi and journalists of his generation just attention.

need to figure out how to get their GORDON OLIVER is The Columbian's business editor. 360-735-4699, http:// twitter.com/col goliver; http://www. columbian.com/weblogs/strictlybusiness, or gordon.oliver@columbian.

com.