

LibraryCrunch

Bringing You A "Library 2.0" Perspective, by Michael Casey

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Web 2.0's Disruption and "The Little Guy"

There is nothing new here. Everyone reading my blog as well as so many other sites in the biblioblogsphere are well aware of the "disruption" being caused by Web 2.0 technologies. What is new, and very good to see, is that this level of disruption is just now beginning to catch the eye of the mainstream media. Today's Times ran a great article titled [Web Services Upend Old Ideas About the Little Guy's Role](#) and written by Steve Lohr. Here is my favorite selection:

The second-generation Internet technologies — combined with earlier tools like the Web itself and e-mail — are drastically reducing the cost of communicating, finding things and distributing and receiving services online. That means a cost leveling that puts small companies on equal footing with big ones, making it easier for upstarts to innovate, disrupt industries and even get big fast.

The phenomenon is a big step in the democratization of information technology. Its imprint is evident well beyond business, in the social and cultural impact of everything from blogs to online role-playing games. Still, it seems that small businesses, and the marketplace they represent, will be affected the most in the overall economy. Long-held assumptions are suddenly under assault.

[Read the entire New York Times article here.](#)

Posted by Michael on February 21, 2006 07:15 AM | [Permalink](#)

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Another interesting threat/opportunity for the mainstream media is the rise of community news aggregators like <http://www.newsbump.net>

Posted by: lx5 | [February 21, 2006 09:00 AM](#)

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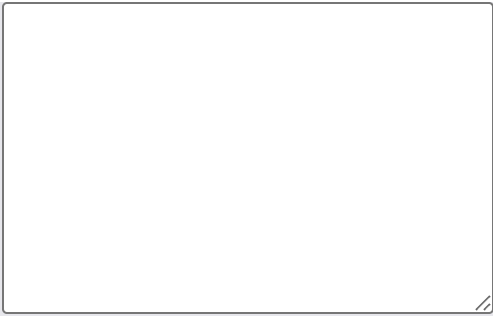
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