



I've missed our deadline. So ,you're getting this issue a day or two late. I apologize. This column is the final piece of our production puzzle, so its completion is the critical node. Usually, I pull through at the last moment.

This week, I'm focused on my mom.

It's not her birthday, and Mother's Day is more than half a year off. But she has taken care of us for close to six decades, and now we are looking after her.

I had plans for a thoughtful – perhaps provocative – piece on education theory and aggregate performance measures in the U.S. I saved an obscure newspaper article for inspiration and foundational source material. Ultimately, I've run out of time.

The topic will have to wait two weeks, because my

mom is more important. And I don't mean that as an insult to you, our reader. You're important to me...to us at The Skinnie, too. Nor is it an excuse. It's simply my reality at this moment. And I appreciate your grace and understanding. I'll be back with keyboard blazing next time. I promise. Until then...

Scott A. Lauretti



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