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## Module 5 recap

Over the past week, I made several changes and additions to my Blazor WebAssembly project. I integrated backend fetching for New York Times travel articles by creating a new service in the API, which retrieves and exposes these articles through a JSON endpoint. This isn't something that's all too important for the program, but I felt using a real-world API (NY Times) would help demonstrate my familiarity with web development concepts. The API serves the stored articles via JSON to the the News.razor page/route and asynchronously loads/displays the travel stories, using a new TravelArticle component to render each article. To support this, I also added the TravelStoryResponse model to structure the data coming from the backend's JSON response.

I improved the authentication process by refactoring the login and registration flows into discrete components that conditionally render depending on the LoginComponent's state, adding result messages for clearer feedback, and introducing a password reset form. I also added a placeholder profile component, which is where I plan on having administrators be able to navigate to the restricted '/admin' route. Alongside these changes, I updated the layout and CSS to create a more polished and user-friendly interface, although the visuals aren't something I've been too concerned with - more focusing on functionality.

For security and account management, I implemented password hashing for account registration and enhanced session state management. Additionally, I fixed serialization issues related to null strings in the user model. Overall, these updates have made my project more robust, secure, and user-focused. I will say that as the project grows it's getting a bit harder to keep it all straight in my mind, so I plan on going through each file, adding descriptive summaries of classes/components, and further dividing the folder structure to organize things more effectively.