

BY THE NUMBERS

Counting Up Commencement

In May, Rochester will celebrate the accomplishments of its newest class of graduates. What goes into launching these proud alumni? Here are some of the ways that the campus prepares.

8,000 program books distributed throughout graduation weekend

5,154 guest seats set up for the College ceremony on Eastman Quadrangle

2,095 feet of pipe and drape for the Eastman Quadrangle seating area

1,890 feet of yellow rope for the processional walkway

1,400 muffins distributed at Hoyt Plaza before the College ceremony

1,320 feet of stanchions for the graduate line-up

954 School of Arts and Sciences undergraduate degrees conferred

440 Simon School degrees conferred

292 Arts, Sciences, and Engineering graduate degrees conferred

267 Eastman School degrees conferred

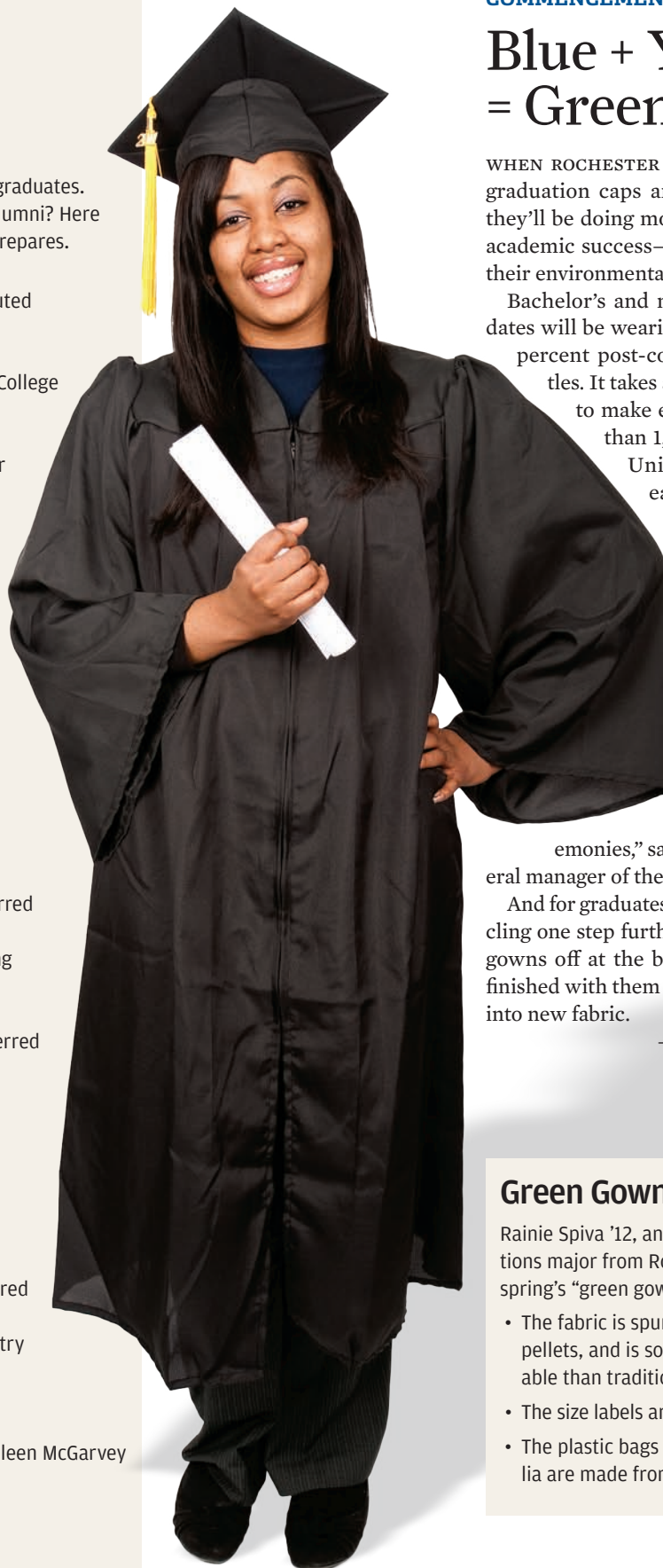
250 School of Nursing degrees conferred

160 Hajim School of Engineering and Applied Sciences undergraduate degrees conferred

150 Warner School degrees conferred

107 School of Medicine and Dentistry medical degrees conferred

—Kathleen McGarvey



COMMENCEMENT

Blue + Yellow = Green

WHEN ROCHESTER STUDENTS DON THEIR graduation caps and gowns this spring, they'll be doing more than marking their academic success—they'll be showing off their environmental smarts, too.

Bachelor's and master's degree candidates will be wearing regalia made of 100 percent post-consumer recycled bottles. It takes an average of 23 bottles to make each gown. With more than 1,500 gowns sold at the University's bookstores each graduation season, 34,500 bottles will be repurposed to dress Rochester graduates.

Not only are the gowns "better for the environment, but the fabric actually feels softer and more comfortable than what we've used for previous commencement ceremonies," says Maria Ferrante, general manager of the bookstores.

And for graduates who want to take recycling one step further, they can drop their gowns off at the bookstore after they've finished with them so they can be recycled into new fabric.

—MELISSA GRECO LOPES

Green Gowns

Rainie Spiva '12, an international relations major from Rochester, models this spring's "green gown":

- The fabric is spun from molten plastic pellets, and is softer and more breathable than traditional polyester.
- The size labels are stamped with soy ink.
- The plastic bags used to store the regalia are made from recycled plastic.