Rensselaer received the highest number of total applications in its history for the Class of 2021—a total of 19,485 applications, 1,018 more than last year—according to Rensselaer’s Office of Admissions. This represents a total increase of 5 percent from last year at this time, and an increase of over 28 percent over the past five years.

“This is the largest number of applications for one year that Rensselaer has ever received,” said Jonathan Wexler, Vice President for Enrollment Management. “Last year, Rensselaer received 18,467 applications.”

Admissions statistics so far represent a diverse student community. In addition to increases in total applications this year, Rensselaer’s applicant pool also experienced a significant increase in the total number of applications from women, international, and underrepresented minority students.

Legacy applicants, who have a parent or sibling that attended Rensselaer, also made up a greater total number of applications this year, Rensselaer’s applicant pool also experienced a significant increase in the total number of applications from women, international, and underrepresented minority students.

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Meeting: Three speakers announced
From MEETING. Page 1

ELECTIONS
Rand, Ekhalikar win PU primary
Sidney Kochman
Senior Reporter

ON APRIL 4, THE RULES & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE RELEASED THE RESULTS OF THE primaries, certifying that President of the Union candidates Matthew Rand '19 and Rasika Ekhalikar '18 will be on the final ballot. They received 998 and 779 votes, respectively. Keegan Caraway '18 received 544 votes and Harrison Leinweber '18 received 497 votes.

Rand, in a statement emailed to The Poly, said, “I want to thank the 2,964 students who took time out of their day to participate. It was a huge turnout and helped to ensure that our Student Union has a bright future with strong leaders.” He added, “I would also like to thank the 998 individuals who chose me to be their President of the Union.”

Reflecting on her campaign so far, Ekhalikar said, “It was an honor to be chosen in such a strong field of candidates. Their platforms and campaigns made me better.”

Leinweber offered his thoughts on the race. “I feel as though Rasika’s vision and actions most closely match my own; I would like to see her assume the role of President of the Union next term. This being said, I encourage everyone to attend or tune into the final debates in order to make an informed decision on their candidate of choice.”

At press time, The Poly was awaiting comment from Caraway.

Another PU debate and a Grand Marshal question and answer session are scheduled for 7 pm on Wednesday in the McNeil Room. Final voting begins on Thursday at 9 am, and polls will be set up in Commons, the DCC Great Hall, and the west lobby of the Rensselaer Union until 7 pm.

Admissions: Record number of freshman applications
From ADMISSIONS. Page 1

According to the 2016–2017 Common Data Set, the Rensselaer student to faculty ratio declined to its lowest level in the past decade, falling from 15 to 1 in 2015 to 13 to 1 in 2016. During this same time frame, the number of faculty holding the highest degree in their field also rose to over 90 percent. Faculty resources account for 20 percent of the US News & World Report ranking index, and are an important determination in the Institute’s rankings, even more so than admissions selectivity, which accounts for 12.5 percent. Increases in faculty can also impact other areas of the ranking index, including undergraduate academic reputation which accounts for an additional 22.5 percent of the ranking index. Rensselaer was ranked 39th among all national universities in the 2016-2017 US News & World Report.

Acceptance rate data for the Class of 2021 is not currently public, but assuming a class size similar to last year’s of roughly 1,650 as well as the similar yield rate, The Poly estimates the acceptance rate for the Class of 2021 was between 39 and 41 percent with a margin of error of one percent for the range. For a slightly smaller class of 1,500 anticipated students, the acceptance rate was between 36 and 38 percent, with roughly the same margin of error.
GRAND MARSHAL PAUL ILORI ’17 OPENED THE STUDENT SENATE MEETING WITH COMMITTEE REPORTS. Those began with Rules & Elections Committee Chairperson David Raab ’19, who reported that elections were running well with no major issues. In order to receive a mug, students must vote in both the primaries and general student government elections.

Following Raab, Student Government Communications Chairperson Ellie Mees ’18 announced that she anticipates future bylaw changes to the SGC and hopes to spark future discussion about the future of the committee. Following Mees, Facilities & Services Committee Chairperson Austin Miller ’17 stated that he met with Director Matthew Wellhofer ’20 and said that the meeting “went well,” and that both Hunter and Matthews seemed “very receptive” to the idea of integrating Rensselaer with social media.

The E-Board approved looking further into the proposed future renovations of Mother’s and the Games Room. Kuprenas displayed some of the suggested floor plans of the new space, which aim to make both spaces more usable.

Further look into Mother’s renovation approved

Jack Wellhofer
Senior Reporter

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OPENED ITS LAST MEETING of President of the Union Chip Kirchner’s term on Thursday, March 30 with a full schedule ahead of them. First on their list was a proposal from Luke Kuprenas ’18 about the proposed future renovations of Mother’s Wine Emporium and the Games Room. Kuprenas displayed some of the suggested floor plans of the new space, which aim to make both spaces more usable.

Members of the E-Board asked for clarification of the motion regarding the space, which Joe Campo provided. “Right now, you’re voting on an idea. Do you want to do this and does it sound like a good idea,” explained Campo. Steve Allard added that this was for an approval of the concept, and that a professional architect would be brought in when the rooms are to be renovated.

Graduate students Jen Church and Nick Thompson both brought up concerns about the capacity of the space. Many Graduate Council events are held in the Games Room because of its high capacity and can be closed off with relative ease. Church and Thompson wanted to voice their concerns for later considerations.

The E-Board approved looking further into plans for the renovation of Mother’s and the Games Room.

The Polytechnic will be holding elections on Sunday, April 23rd in our office, RU 3418. Elections will begin at 11 am sharp!

Jonathan Calcedo/ The Polytechnic

Culinary Club came before the E-Board to seek recognition so that they can fundraise and host events. The group will be working with Tofu Tim in Russell Sage Dining Hall to put on the events. Cameron McLean said that because the club was previously active at RPI, there should be no liability issues that need to be dealt with. The club was recognized in a 19-0-0 vote.

Next, Seonmin Kim of Rensselaer’s division of the New York Historical Fencing Association came to the E-Board, also seeking recognition. The club focuses on historic European martial arts, including the broadsword, longsword, and warhammer. They currently practice on the lawn outside of the Armory, but would like to be able to reserve space.

Conrad Mossl ’17 asked about risk management, as, at first glance, it appeared to be a dangerous activity. Allard was able to answer the question, explaining that the club is “100 percent approved as long as they do not use metal.” Wood and plastic weapons are acceptable. The club was unanimously approved.

The last club to come before the Board was Chabad On Campus, seeking Rensselaer Union affiliation. Chabad On Campus is a Jewish cultural organization that has been operating at Rensselaer for around 35 years. The group wanted to received affiliated status so that they can reserve rooms and increase membership. It is open to anyone who wants to learn more about Judaism. Chabad on Campus’ affiliated status was approved by the Board 18-0-0.

Last on the E-Board’s agenda for the evening was a vehicle purchase proposal. The Union’s cargo vans and the truck for the crew team, all 15-20 years old, in need of replacement. After receiving a number of quotes, the E-Board unanimously approved the proposal to purchase two new cargo vans and a new truck for a total of $69,000.

The Polytechnic
Another election is upon us, so the staff of The Polytechnic would like to take the opportunity to plug voter participation. Before you go to the polls on Thursday, take some time to review the candidates. Yes, you could go into the polls blind and vote for the person at the top of the list, a funny name might draw you in, and forget to get the mug. What does that accomplish? What does that do for you? For your fellow students? The outcome of these elections will influence the students of RPI for years to come.

Go on to the elections website, https://elections.union.rpi.edu, and review the profiles of the people who you might vote for. Take some time to read over our GM Week issue especially on the back from the Editorial Board, Graduate Council, and Interfraternity Council, at https://poly.rpi.edu/cgiweek/2017. Consider the merits of each candidate, and think about who has put time and effort into their platform and shows commitment to the campus you want to student government and the Rensselaer Union to go in.

And please, don’t let voting be the end of your involvement. We have seen thousands of citizens mobilized by the 2016 presidential elections. Those people have become involved in politics at all levels, and we are better for it. Though student government’s purview is much, much smaller, don’t let that stop you from partaking in local elections so that you know who represents your cohort, so that it is an issue comes up you know who will voice your concerns. Take the next step, and participate in a student government committee or organization...need to be an elected official to get things done! Democracy works best when its members participate. Consider putting some time in for the benefit of us all.

**STAFF EDITORIAL**

Voting impacts students

Grand Marchal Week elections about more than mug

As a freshman coming back to school from my first spring break, things sucked. Adjusting to life from an environment of constant sleep and catching up with friends, to one where I had tests the next week and the hardest Data Structures homework (possibly ever) due on my birthday. I felt terrible. I just wanted to go back home, curl up in a ball and never work again. But somehow, I persisted and I’m here. Break was fun, but you can’t let the end goal of your sight: we’re all here to end the semester and continue on with our lives.

With regards to my earlier notebook about setting goals, I’m proud to admit that those goals are in the progress of being met. The video games have been cut down substantially, even though I splurged and bought the most recent Hunchle Bundle and have played exactly none of it. The studying has increased in frequency; however, the one goal that’s missing is a partner. I mean that in two different ways. First, I’m going to try my hardest to avoid saying that time flies by and I’ll be a senior next year, but I thought it’d be okay to mention it right at the beginning of this notebook. Instead, I’m going to explore how my classes have been up to this point and what I’d like to see in the last few semesters of my education here at Rensselaer. I noticed with some of my current classes I have my labs associated with them, quite strange, I believe, for a civil engineer who will be practicing in the field as part of my career. The three civil engineering courses I am currently enrolled in are Matrix Structural Analysis, Applied Hydromechanics, and Aerodynamics Design. Each of these three courses is rigorously calculation-oriented. However, when I enter my full time career, I do not intend to just sit with a pencil and paper in my hand for hours straight. There must be another side to civil engineering, or engineering in general. I guess a lab for MSA would be useful if you’re going to construct matrices for analyzing structures, yet I hope to see in my future structural engineering courses a hand-on lab. Yes, I understand we get quite busy developing miniature structures based on the designs from class. In every lecture, I go through, of where this course is in real life often crosses my mind. I may raise my hand to ask this question or whisper it to a friend next to me, yet there are times I’ll leave class wondering for the rest of the day the reality of the problems we analyzed in class.

This barrier of analyzing structures on paper and not knowing the real life application of the structure is a bit aggravating. In my Introduction to Structural Engineering class, we took a field trip to the Experimental and Materials Testing Center to examine the connections and the members holding it in place. This was very interesting but only happened once in the entire semester! Rensselaer should place a larger focus on bringing many calculations performed on paper and pencil, and even computers, to life—whether that be having more field trips, labs, or guest speakers. Currently, the Civil Engineering Department tries to host one-hour seminars with professors and researchers from other universities every other week, yet the students are uninterested, as I have noticed in the few I have gone to, has been very low. These seminars should be incorporated into the syllabus to guarantee students attend them! In my Hydraulics course this semester, Professor Young invited one of his colleagues to speak about their career as a civil engineer. Additionally, as a member of the RPI Student Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers, I have listened to many guest speakers from various companies discuss what they do in their careers, and again the student attendance seems quite low. I would love to see Rensselaer progressing towards more real world engineers and outside the class. To ensure most students have advantages, I recommend labs, and guest speakers, there should be designated times set within the syllabus for these potential opportunities.

Another suggestion I have to build a more well-rounded engineer is to discuss failure more in class. As of right now, students at RPI who decide to skip a class usually skip because they don’t want to attend a lecture in which they can easily read the textbook to obtain the information from the lecture for that day. To avoid this, lectures should be recorded, or more exciting information discussed that you will not find in the textbook—or specifically the textbook. This is especially critical in my Professional Development II course this semester, I needed to write a research paper

**EDITORIAL NOTEBOOKS**

Sleep deficits unsustainable

Labs, field trips imperative

Almost that time again—time to pick clubs for the next semester! I’m going to try my hardest to avoid saying that time flies by and I’ll be a senior next year, but I thought it’d be okay to mention it right at the beginning of this notebook. Instead, I’m going to explore how my classes have been up to this point and what I’d like to see in the last few semesters of my education here at Rensselaer. I noticed with some of my current classes I have my labs associated with them, quite strange, I believe, for a civil engineer who will be practicing in the field as part of my career. The three civil engineering courses I am currently enrolled in are Matrix Structural Analysis, Applied Hydromechanics, and Aerodynamics Design. Each of these three courses is rigorously calculation-oriented. However, when I enter my full time career, I do not intend to just sit with a pencil and paper in my hand for hours straight. There must be another side to civil engineering, or engineering in general. I guess a lab for MSA would be useful if you’re going to construct matrices for analyzing structures, yet I hope to see in my future structural engineering courses a hand-on lab. Yes, I understand we get quite busy developing miniature structures based on the designs from class. In every lecture, I go through, of where this course is in real life often crosses my mind. I may raise my hand to ask this question or whisper it to a friend next to me, yet there are times I’ll leave class wondering for the rest of the day the reality of the problems we analyzed in class.

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**MY VIEW**

Crack growth in aerostructures

Poor aircraft analysis causes concerns

Lawrence Stoker

A Special to The Poly

“Don’t fly in 20 years,” my father said before they became catastrophic.

We’re able to deal with these problems we analyzed in class. To avoid this, lectures should be recorded, or more exciting information discussed that you will not find in the textbook—or specifically the textbook. This is especially critical in my Professional Development II course this semester, I needed to write a research paper
**Hands-On: Lectures not enough for success**

From HANDS-ON, Page 4

on an engineering failure. You may have guessed it, but I researched the failure of a massive structure—the collapse of the Hartford Civic Center. With every article I read, I hinted that the problem with many undergraduate aspiring engineers is the lack of knowledge about the field. For example, you could not even finish the book you are reading because it is written for professional engineers and not for you. Failures and collapses exist, and should be incorporated somehow into the curriculum of more engineering courses here at Rensselaer.

In recent years. Even if it does not happen, I am very thankful for my education at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and am looking forward to doing what the school prides itself on—changing the world!

**Flight: Flaws frighten**

From FLIGHT, Page 4

want (whether they know it or not) engineering rigor behind every piece of aircraft structure.

 Fellow engineers, we are the champions of airworthiness, and we need to take our task seriously!

Recent experiences have raised red flags. I am concerned with the analyses I see coming out of other offices and other companies. I have a common thought: “I really don’t hope you don’t deal with commercial aircraft this way.” For reasons in military aviation, the thought that “the pilot has a parachute” is enough to let some engineers get by without careful analyses. A parachute may save the pilot, but it won’t save my house as the abandoned plane barrels into the ground!

In all seriousness, the “lucky way out” has become a common denominator. If we don’t address this problem, we will either be praying for luck or become statistics.

People don’t like to be corrected. But you can’t ignore problems like poor analyses, lack of understanding the problem, and incorrect free-body diagrams.

Yet when you address these, the engineer or the lead gets defensive! Rather than listen to the substance of the concern, pride becomes the foundation for the analysis.

Fellow engineers: be the mentor and provide correction to your subordinates!

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**Sleep: Class schedule suffers from lack of rest**

From SLEEP, Page 4

lacking is the sleep aesthetic, and that’s what I want to touch on today.

I’ve seen a general attitude of “I don’t need sleep” on this campus; from both close friends and random conversations I overhear at Russel Sage Dining Hall. People my age are constantly going to bed late, and their reasons are often ambiguous. For instance, some are catching up on work they procrastinated, while others often play video games into the night. I’ve caught my own sleep schedule going from nine hours in the past to six or seven at a time. I’m getting and it’s everything but fun. Naps are amazing, but they’re unsustainable; some days class schedules require you out and about for most of the afternoon, and thus you’re running on a sleep deficit. I know the feeling of crashing into bed only to awaken four hours later, and trust me, it’s not a good feeling at all. I was so much happier on days where I could get an over eight hour rest period.

That’s not saying that people cut classes to catch up on sleep. Quite the contrary—they should plan around their sleep schedule when deciding what classes to take and vice-versa. The two should go in hand, and therefore people should be better equipped to tackle their upcoming days.

All in all, I have no idea what I’m saying. This was written at 2:14 am while I was procrastinating doing my CAD homework. People can be such hypocrites sometimes!
Indian Students Association hosts Holi festivities

Rex Hu
Senior Reviewer

On Sunday, students and local community members alike celebrated Holi with an event hosted by the Indian Students Association. Holi is a traditional Hindu spring festival that celebrates the coming of spring and new beginnings, and is also known as a festival of colors and love. The festivities are so popular that they have been appropriated as color run events, which involve runners in a 5k or similar event being covered by people on the side with powder and water.

Growing up in the Bay Area, I’d seen friends and classmates post pictures of the celebration, but I’d never gone to one myself before coming to RPI. The event was originally scheduled for Saturday, but was moved to Sunday due to poor expected weather conditions. That turned out to be a good call, because Sunday was quite a beautiful day. While Robison Field was still a bit muddied from rain the day before, students came out in large groups to participate, and some were even barefoot.

Entry was $3, and participants were

See COLOR, Page 8

CAMPUS EVENT
Shark Tank-like contest draws entrepreneurs

Serge Piskun
Senior Reviewer

On Saturday March 25, students from all walks of RPI life came together to form teams and compete in a Shark Tank style competition hosted by Deloitte Consulting. The event, which lasted for four days, had students prototype and attempt to sell an original idea to a panel of judges made up of RPI professors and Deloitte employees. The theme of this competition was “Improving Campus” and all of the designs need two things: a purpose or otherwise concrete function, and a way to generate profit for the creators.

The first group going proposed a water-awareness module that could be installed on campus to make students recognize how much water they use in an attempt to conserve future water usage. The device would be a small sensor that would be attached to both a faucet and a shower, and then linked with an LCD monitor that tracks how much water flows through.

DELOITTE CONSULTING SPONSORED the event, encouraging creativity and profits.

See DELOITTE, Page 7

Music Fest at The Clubhouse Pub

Wine and Dine
Napa Valley Wines and a 3-course meal. $15, sign up online.

Karaoke
Sing your heart out to California hits.

Brainstormer Trivia
Test your knowledge and compete with your friends to be the true trivia champ.

Anything that Floats
Bring your GM Week mug and float your favorite Ben and Jerry’s ice cream.

Got a great idea?

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will soon be cancer free and is planning. She is hopeful that she will see the results of the treatment as doctors have said they are pleased with the progress. Mya continues to fight; she completed all of chemo, including hair loss, and is ready to deal with the many side effects as she recovers.

As you can imagine, Mya had given a positive prognosis and began biopsies, and surgeries, she was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma—a cancer that starts in the white blood cells. After going through many tests, biopsies, and surgeries, she was given a positive prognosis and began a process of six months of chemotherapy and three weeks of radiation. As you can imagine, Mya had to deal with the many side effects of chemo, including hair loss, nausea, and fatigue. Through it all, she has remained positive and continues to fight; she completed her last week of radiation, and her doctors have said they are pleased with the results of the treatment plan. She is hopeful that she will soon be cancer free and is planning to get back to the gym to prepare for next year’s cheer season as soon as possible.

The fundraiser consisted of selling raffle tickets and collecting donations throughout the week in the Darrin Communications Center as well as at the modeling event in the Rensselaer Union. Prize packages were put together from the various donations of clubs, local shops, and restaurants, including the Collegiate Store, The Flying Chicken, Muddaddy Flats Quads, Daily Grind, and RPI Hockey. Some of the prizes included gift card packages, time at a pottery studio, earrings, golden hair bows, and the main prize, a 32” TV. I bought five tickets and was hoping to win some gift cards or the studio time package at The Pottery Place, but unfortunately all I came home with was a cookie. The guy next to me won the TV, so that was exciting.

The main event featured a fashion show showcasing varsity uniforms and cheer outfits. The models, consisting of RPI cheerleaders and other student athletes around the campus region, strutted down the catwalk, while Chey Thompson ’20 announced the models’ name, and the different components of the outfits. In the background, DJ Sean Lowell ’20 was jamming out while playing the music for the models to walk to. The show was most likely more enjoyable for the cheerleaders in the crowd, but, since I don’t need any cheerleading uniforms, my favorite part of the fashion show was definitely watching Sean quietly headbanging and dancing in the background while the models obliviously continued their modeling.

The event was well attended, and the team was able to raise $600 that went directly to Mya and her family to help with the many medical costs. The Rensselaer Cheerleading Team will continue to post updates on Mya’s condition on the team’s Facebook page. You can also read updates from her family or donate to her GoFundMe page at https://poly.rpi.edu/mya.

Don’t forget to vote this Thursday!
Voting locations include the DCC, Commons, and the Union’s West lobby

A Vollmer Fries Lecture
The McKinney Writing Contest
READING
Poet and Memoirist GREGORY PARDLO reads from his work and responds to questions.

WHEN: Wednesday, April 12th, at 8 PM
WHERE: Biotech Auditorium, Biotechnology & Interdisciplinary Studies Bldg., Rensselaer (RPI), Troy

Gregory Pardlo is the winner of the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for his book of poems, Digest, and Winner of the 2007 APR/Honickman Prize for his first poetry book, Totem. His other honors include fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the New York Foundation for the Arts. He is also the author of Air Traffic, a memoir in essays forthcoming from Knopf.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Deloitte: Students tasked to help RPI
FROM Page 6
each respective outlet. The group argued that any money that was saved would go towards green initiatives on campus, and would pay for itself in a short period of time. They also discussed paying for water usage, as collected data could be used by administrators to determine what to charge for water at institutions similar to RPI.

A second group worked on an expansion of the RPI Shuttle Tracker. Currently a system is in place which tracks shuttles through GPS and outputs that data to the shuttle tracking website. This team argued that putting all that data into an app would be both more efficient, and would draw more students into using school-provided public transportation. The current shuttle system is flawed because people constantly complain about shuttles not being on time and therefore causing students to miss classes or important exams. This app would be different from the existing system because it provides a centralized user interface based on what stop you are at, and based on when you would like to board a shuttle. It also has a feature that I would personally like implemented on campus: user-based shuttle destination generation. The group behind the shuttle app redesign introduced a mechanic where users of the app could vote on future shuttle locations to areas not currently offered on the routes. There would include both existing locations, like stores or alternate malls, and special functions, like day trips or concerts. The group also argued that this app could be used by businesses, like food delivery cars, to provide a real-time estimate of when they would arrive at their destination.

A third group marked their app as a Cafe-To-Go app which was targeted to help college campuses. Its aim was to reduce lines and wait times at campus cafes by providing a method of ordering food on one’s phone. Similarly to the Panera to-go app, Cafe-To-Go would have a list of available cafes and a list of foods that could be ordered through them. A student would be able to pay in RPI Flex or RAC to have a meal made, and then left on a shelf for them so they could hurry to class and not be forced to wait in a line. The group estimates that RPI could profit between $5,000–$33,000 a year by eliminating lines at its different cafes, and in turn, could help branch the app out to new schools.

The competition was a smash hit, with eight groups of three to five students working hard to pitch their dreams. I hope the students had as much fun developing their project as I did watching the reveals.
CONCERT REVIEW

John Mayer’s unique style enthralles crowds

Ana Wishnoff, Crystal Velez
Senior Reviewer, Staff Reviewer

Arriving on a set with a vibrant pink screen, John Mayer immediately captured the attention of thousands this past weekend at the Times Union Center in Albany. Mayer kicked off the first night of his “Search for Everything” tour by opening with the smooth, jazzy rhythms of “Belief” off of his 2006 album Continuum. The show was uniquely structured, such that it was separated into chapters. Mayer began the show with chapter one, titled “Full Band,” and proceeded to change the style of music with every few songs he performed. Mayer amazed the crowd as he took the audience on a “trip around the world” to places like California and India. Chapter two was “Acoustic,” and a beautifully illuminated backdrop of what appeared to be Japan was displayed on the screen behind him, which Mayer referred to as “The Dream Screen.” Digital cherry blossoms swayed with Mayer’s mellow tone, as Mayer himself strummed his guitar next to a small wooden bridge. The props and the backdrop set the mood for songs like “Daughters,” “In Your Atmosphere,” and “Free Falling.”

The show was a very eclectic experience—John Mayer’s eccentric personality really shined through. It was clear that he had a lot of say on this tour, in regards to the set list, band, and stage decorations such as backgrounds and props. In the middle of his performance of “Helpless,” Mayer stopped playing mid-performance and addressed the audience, saying, “When we were recording this, I had so much fun dancing around like a fool in the studio to this part of the song. So I’m gonna replay this part, and I want to see all of you dancing like fools.” Mayer proceeded to have his band replay the same verse three times until everyone in the crowd was truly dancing like an idiot, along with him on stage.

While it is no surprise that Mayer himself is a talented performer both instrumentally and vocally, the songs he performed live sounded just like their original recordings, if not even better. The show Mayer presents to the audience is mellow, like a walk in the park. One can look around the arena and see thousands of fans old and young standing, bobbing their heads with the beat, holding their significant others, and carefully mouthing out the words to all of their favorite songs.

With Mayer, one must go into the arena knowing what to expect. Mayer is a performer because of his melodic, smooth voice. His voice is both rich and relaxed. No one should expect the show to be crazy and full of rambunctious energy, but instead should expect a relaxed journey through two hours of happiness and nostalgia. With that being said, John Mayer does frequently spice things up with long guitar riffs of the end songs such as “In Repair” and “I Don’t Trust Myself with Loving You.” Mayer’s handwork was frequently displayed up on the “dream screen” for all to see. Mayer plays with passion—there is emotion and feeling that comes with every guitar solo. There is no doubt that regardless of where you are sitting in the arena, every single individual is captivated by the beauty of his sound.

MAYER BLENDS his own unique vocal style with captivating visual effects to create a show that draws a diverse audience; all age groups and relationship dynamics were represented.

Color: Holi featured variety of colors and music

FROM Page 6

given a wristband and four tickets, which could each be traded in for a bag of colored powder. At the event, there were also samosas (an Indian fried dish filled with vegetables such as potatoes, onions, peas, and lentils) and water guns for sale; the samosas were good, if a little cold, but I can’t say much about the water guns. The few times I got collateral spray were bearable—in contrast, I saw ISA members drenching each other with tubs of water, and I can’t imagine how fun that’d be for a target.

The powder came in a variety of colors: pink, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. Once you got your powder, you were free to throw it at anyone you wanted to—literally anyone. You could throw it on your friends, you could throw it on yourself, strangers would throw it at each other—while greeting each other a happy Holi—and even a photographer that was there wasn’t safe from the colored powder. (It’s a good thing he had his camera in a plastic bag!) Spreading the color was fun and simple; you could grab a handful and toss it, take a pinch of powder and sprinkle it, smear it across faces and arms, or even just just say ‘Heather, I heard your name was on someone’s clothing. (Cleaning it off wasn’t as fun—there was definitely residue left in my ears, my clothes had a slight pink tint to them after washing.)

But you could also save your powder for a round. About every 15 minutes, they would announce over the speaker that there was another round. Everyone would proceed to split into two groups, line up on either the fire station side or the Mueller Center side, and then charge at each other to throw color. Many people planned for this, using their powder sparingly so that they would have enough for the next round.

Between rounds, people casually walked about, mingleing with friends and strangers alike, sharing in the joy of spring and color. Music helped create an atmosphere as uplifting as the weather. Both Indian and American songs were being blasted at a very high volume, people from Indian culture, and people danced like it was middle school again, jumping up and down, fist pumping, and making conga lines. In all, Sunday was wonderful to begin with, and ISA’s event made it that much more bright and colorful. It might not be everyone’s cup of tea, especially if you’re afraid of getting some powder in your eyes or mouth (the taste of the colored powder definitely isn’t my cup of tea), but I would personally recommend going at least once in your time at RPI. College is the perfect time to have messy fun, and who knows when you’ll come across a Holi event next?

Serving the Rensselaer community since 1885

Courtesy of Eric Chan

Sidney Kochman/ The Polytechnic

PARTICIPANTS EAGERLY DANCED to American and Indian music (file photo).
**SUDOKU**

Instructions

Fill in the grid so that each row, column, and 3-by-3 subsquare contains exactly one occurrence of the numbers 1 through 9.

Solutions from March 22 Issue

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**MONDAY PUNDAY**

by Matthew Broussard

**DILBERT**

by Scott Adams

**WORD FIND**

by Ana Wishnoff

Words can be found forwards, backwards, up, down, and in both diagonals.

**Past Grand Marshals**

A B N R X Z D U F B N L O P A
Z Z E Q L O I Z E D A L A V W
C R W T Y U L C Y A T E S E M
B F D A S P L N M C F O I O A
E O G I C S O S E W L C T A T
D G R R L K N D F A E Z V T H
X R E Z T R E A S Y G T E
C E R Q U P T E Y U R H B E R
B C O S W M H C Q W E E D L L
N O M X E C A L O R D S A R J
H D T V R J P T K E R A G A G
F R N G T K U E E A I G C D
A T U H Y O I L W T H Y R F S
S H A R M A O S D C R O G C
W L L U R T L A E R E P H H
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Brown
Carletta
Chesal
Dai
Dillon
Flowers
Greco
Hunt
Keraga
Leusner
Mather
Perea
Schmidt
Sharma
Valadez
Yates
Zwick

**MONDAY PUNDAY**

by Matthew Broussard

Do you like drawing comics?
Draw comics for The Poly!
Email us at comics@poly.rpi.edu
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**BASEBALL**

Rensselaer falters versus RIT; drops to 6-12

Jack Wellhofer
Senior Reporter

RENSSLEAER HAD A TOUGH HOME-OPENING WEEKEND AGAINST Rochester Institute of Technology, losing both double-header games Saturday and splitting Sunday’s games 1–1.

On the second pitch of the game, the Tiger’s Navada Waterman tripled to center field, setting the tone for the rest of the game. Waterman was sent home during the next at bat, putting one up for RIT.

The Engineers matched RIT in the second, with a double from senior Thomas Desmond. A poke into right field from junior Ethan Meister allowed Desmond to get home.

From there, the Tigers became an unstoppable run scoring machine. RIT put runs on the board in every inning from the third through the seventh. During that same time, RPI only scraped together one run during the sixth, a solo homer from senior Sam Lawrence. At the end of the game, the score stood at 14–2.

RIT was again the first one out of the gate in the second game. Two runs in the first and two more in the second put them at a comfortable 4–0 lead. But the Engineers had learned their lesson from the last game, and were prepared to score some runs. Desmond lead off the bottom of the second with a home run. Later in the inning, senior Jeff Satiski managed to steal home.

But RPI’s biggest inning was still on the horizon. In the third inning, the team’s bats went wild. Eight men rounded the bases before RIT scraped together three outs. The runs came courtesy of singles from Satiski and junior Christian Spaguola, a triple from senior Justin Valente, and a two-run home run from Lawrence. The Engineers sat comfortably at 10–4.

As any veteran of the game knows, the game’s not over until it’s over. With only three innings gone, there was still plenty of time for RIT to come back. And come back they did. RPI expanded their lead by one in the bottom of the third, but RIT had their big inning in the sixth. The Tigers closed the seven run gap to only two, after three hits and two errors by the Engineers.

Going into the ninth, RIT was trailing by one. Just three outs away from the engineers, the Engineers would claim their first Liberty League victory of the season. A groundout to first and a strikeout put that goal within one. An error put a man on first, and a double followed that, putting two in scoring position. Unfortunately for the Engineers, another double sent both men home. RIT had secured a lead.

The Engineers didn’t manage to scrape together a run in the bottom of the inning, just barely losing 12–11.

The teams returned to Robinson Field on Sunday for another double header. Unlike Saturday, Sunday’s games were much lower scoring. The Engineers got on the board first during the fourth inning from a double by senior Sean Welling which sent Lawrence, who walked, home. RIT put up three in the next inning, and the Engineers only managed one more run before the game was over.

Fighting to not get swept by the Tigers, RPI entered the final game of the weekend. RIT scored one run in the first, matched by Rensselaer in the second. The innings remained quiet until the sixth, when the bats came alive and the score came to 3–1 RPI.

RIT got held to just one run the following inning. One more run came home for RPI in the eighth, marking the end of scoring for the game. The Engineers won 4–2.

The Engineers are 6–12 overall and 1–3 in the Liberty League. They have one game against St. Lawrence University on April 5, and then two make-up games against Clarkson University over the weekend.

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**TENNIS**

RPI extinguishes Saints

Maria Espinosa
Senior Reporter

It was a successful weekend for the men’s tennis team as they travelled to Canton, NY to play St. Lawrence University. The Engineers swept the Saints, 9–0, breaking their five-match losing streak. The Engineers won all their doubles matches and all their singles matches, only dropping one set.

The No. 1 doubles team made up of freshmen Sebastian Castillo-Sanchez and Zach Ebenfeld gave the Engineers their first win of the day. The duo won 6–0 in doubles match against Dean Sponholz and Eric Tecce of SLU, 8–2. After this win, Castillo-Sanchez and Ebenfeld were selected as the Liberty League Doubles Team of the Week. This is the fifth time this freshman duo has been awarded this honor. Previously, they were selected as the Liberty League Doubles Team of the Week three times in the fall and then again in February.

Next, victories by the doubles team of freshman Winston Yu and junior Sundar Devakottai and by the doubles team of junior Tristan Wise and freshman Xavier Oshinowo, further widened RPI’s lead to 3–0.

Xavier Oshinowo was the first to capture a win in singles. He beat his opponent in consecutive sets, 6–1, 7–5 and 6–3, 6–4, respectively. Even though they had to go to tie breakers, Ebenfeld and Yu were also able to win their singles matches in consecutive sets, finishing 7–6 (7–5), 6–3 and 6–4, 7–6 (7–5), respectively. Sophomore Sunyansh Patel lost his first set, but was able to come back from behind and win his match 2–6, 7–5, 10–4.

After this past weekend, the Engineers now stand with a 5–5 overall record and a 1–1 conference record. They will play again this Sunday along with the women’s team. The Engineers will host Rochester Institute of Technology and Bard College at Sharp Courts.

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Scores from the Week

**Saturday, April 1**

- Women’s Lacrosse vs RIT: W 7-5
- Men’s Lacrosse at Vassar College: L 9-11

**Sunday, April 2**

- Men’s Golf at The Hershey Cup: T 9 of 15
- Men’s Track and Field at Tufts Snowflake Classic: 2 of 18
- Women’s Track and Field at Tufts Snowflake Classic: 3 of 22
- Men’s Tennis at St Lawrence University: W 9-0
- Baseball vs RIT: L 2-14
- Women’s Lacrosse at University of Rochester: L 6-8
- Baseball vs RIT: L 11-12

**Monday, April 3**

- Men’s Golf at The Hershey Cup: 5 of 15
- Baseball vs RIT: L 2-3
- Baseball vs RIT: W 4-2

**Tuesday, April 4**

- Men’s Lacrosse at Oneonta: W 19-7

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Men’s lacrosse takes on Union College this Saturday at 1 pm at home. We hope to see many fans cheering on the nationally ranked team there!
The tournament is organized similar to the Olympics, in that the 16 qualifying teams are divided into four groups, one from each division. The teams play three games, and whoever has the most points will advance to the next round.

“The first game was against the top-ranked team in the country, [Lindenwood University, Belleville], and they played like it,” remarked junior forward Louis Olivieri. “Losing 5-1 the first game was wake-up call for us.”

“Drained, but not discouraged, we regrouped against Northern Arizona University the next day and won 2-1 for our first National Tournament victory in club history,” noted junior goaltender Ranger Beguelin. “The mood, tempo, and execution were worlds different than the first game.”

Later that evening, Miami University of Ohio upset Lindenwood, setting the stage for Rensselaer advancement. Rensselaer would need to defeat Miami the following day and hope that tiebreakers fall in their favor.

“As fate would have it, the team came out looking worse than they did in the first game,” said Beguelin. “By the time we were five minutes into the second period, we were down 4-0.” The team called a timeout, made a goaltending change, and began the comeback. Club hockey got on the board just a few minutes later. At the end of the third period, the team was just two goals short of tying the game at five a piece.

“I think 10 more minutes of play could have evened the score. It’s painful to think you have done something incorrectly for so long, realized your mistake and made the change, and then still not be able to make up for the damage done earlier,” reflected Beguelin.

“As a graduating member of the team, I am proud of what our class has left behind and have no doubt that you will see the RPI ACHA Hockey Team back at the National Tournament in the very short future,” remarked graduate student Adam Hennick. “A special thank you to everyone who supports our program, from RPI Athletics, RPI TV and the Houston Field House staff, along with the great people at the Student Union and E-Board who made all of this possible.”

Although the team went 1-2 during the national tournament, there are high hopes for future nationals success for the young hockey club in the coming years.