What does menstruation have to do with keeping the environment clean? Every month women throw away used tampons and pads, and the waste from those products goes into landfills.

Most women do not know that they have other options for the cycles that don’t harm the earth.

Regular disposable products such as pads and tampons are made with plastics and chemicals. The cotton is doused with chemicals that bleach the material. Even the applicators of tampons which are usually made from plastic, are used once and then thrown out.

Cotton is one of the most water-intensive and pesticide-intensive crops in modern agriculture. The cotton plant is usually sprayed with biocides to kill pest organisms. Many women fear that the chemicals used in the production process may have a negative effect on their body.

continued on page 8
Car Lane Conversion
Drives People Up the Wall

WESLEY HORTENBACH
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In September, Stevens Point was awarded a Transportation Alternatives Program grant to implement 13 miles of bike lanes from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. The goal of the project is to create a more integrated multi-modal transportation system.

Also in September, ReVisioning Point, a grassroots organization aimed at enhancing the livability, appearance and economy of Stevens Point, as well as University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Adjunct Professor, Dr. Tori Jennings, began talking with city leaders and residents about a possible 4-to-5 lane reconfiguration or "road diet" on Stanley Street.

Four-to-three lane conversions realign existing travel lanes for other uses, such as two-way center turn lanes, bike lanes, pedestrian islands, parking, bus lanes and landscaping.

This proposal is not revolutionary or radical. States across the country and even cities in Wisconsin have made this conversion, including Madison and Tomahawk. The improvements span from the economy and safety to the environment.

Despite prior successes in small and large cities, this project has received strong pushback from some residents of Stevens Point.

On Oct. 26, Stevens Point held a public information meeting where input was given from residents. Approximately half of the people who spoke were emotionally charged and against the proposal but didn't have much substance or merit to their arguments.

Wade Wilquet, Stanley St. resident, said, "I have two children, and I want to know, are you guys going to come console them when they're washing blood off the street because some bicyclist gets killed out there?"

At first, shifting a street from four lanes to three lanes would seem to cut up traffic. The middle lane will be for left turns, so there will still be two lanes for either direction of traffic. Traffic studies have consistently shown that 4-to-3 conversions will not worsen congestion under the appropriate conditions.

Some residents are concerned about the affordability of the project. The current estimate is that the restraining of Stanley Street is $50,000, which is relatively small when stacked against other expenses on a city's budget.

Even so, something would still have to be pushed off the to-do list to make room in the financial forecast.

Mike Wiza, mayor of Stevens Point, is open to consideration but also cautions that there are always more projects than the city can afford.

Wiza said, "If the city council choose to proceed with the re-striping of Stanley Street, then we would likely push back the resurfacing of Whiting Avenue."

Most of the residents who spoke at the meeting had mentioned that they have lived on Stanley Street for numerous years. Jennings was surprised that there was so much resistance from the people of Stevens Point to something bringing beneficial change.

"This is something that should be appealing to everyone," Jennings said. "It will better suit our changing demographics and economy."

When new people come to Stevens Point, they are met with north Division Street and its array of fast food restaurants, which isn't the most aesthetically appealing thing to look at. Instead, if Jennings and other road activists have their project advance to other parts of the city, Division Street and others will look a lot more urbanized and alluring to young people.

Jennings urges young people to have their voice heard.

This is an issue that isn't about bike lanes or road conversions but instead about having a future where the city or even country is shaped by young people. When it comes to voter turnout, or advocacy at a city council public meeting, younger people have the lowest turnout rates.

Adding bike lanes to a single street is not actually about bike lanes; rather, this is an issue of traditionalism.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES
REPORT
Sunday, November 6
An intoxicated individual who was passed out in the bathroom of Smith hall was reported.

A student came into base to report a stolen bicycle.

Monday, November 7
A call notified of a white pick-up truck in front of residence halls using a horn and yelling at people.

A student requested assistance in jumping his car.

Tuesday, November 8
A student's mother called to express concerns about students rioting if Hillary Clinton were to lose the election.

A smell of marijuana was reported from Steinier hall.

Wednesday, November 9
A student came into base to claim that when he types on a computer, he hears voices in another room say what he is typing.

A student approached staff concerning threatening messages on social media.

Thursday, November 10
A student reported a group of men screaming about Trump and Clinton near the Neale circle.

A female called in a truck with Confederate and American flags wherever the driver shouted "Maybe we should grab you by your pussy" before spitting and driving away.

Friday, November 11
Harassment was reported coming from a four-door truck with white stickers.

A biker who had fallen was checked on.

Saturday, November 12
Two males were talked to after urinating in front of May Roach hall.

A report was made about a man sleeping in a truck in Lot P.

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Letters to the editor and all other material submitted to The Pointer becomes the property of The Pointer.
The Election that Trumped Us All

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On Tuesday, Nov. 8, Donald Trump became the 45th president of the United States.

While some Americans are pleased with the election results, many are not reassured with the outcome. Trump’s lack of experience in the political realm and his sometimes disparaging and unfiltered views worry a large percentage of American citizens.

However, Donald Trump is our president-elect. “To all Republicans and Democrats and Independents across this nation, I say it is time for us to come together as one united people,” said Trump during his victory speech.

Polls align with many cit­izens of lower and middle classes who were promised upward mobility. His bluntness is appreciated by some, especially during closely competitive campaigns.

The Senate was won by Repub­licans with 51 electoral votes to the 48 Democratic votes. The House of Representatives was won by Republicans as well with 239 votes to the 192 Democratic votes, according to Associated Press.

Though Trump will have a broad range of power, these election results show how all parts of government need to come together to create laws that are benefi­cial to everyone. “Donald Trump is going to be our president. We owe him an open mind and the chance to lead. I hope that he will be a successful president to all Americans,” said Clinton during her concession speech.

While opinions vary on the outcome, this election proved how pivotal it is to vote and be­come both educated and active in politics.

According to PolicyMic, if only millennials had voted, either for a Democratic or Republican nominee, Clinton would have won by 504 Electoral votes to Trump’s 23.

USA Today reported that many citizens wrote in Harambe, a gorilla who was shot at the Cin­cinnati Zoo earlier this year, as a presidential nominee.

This election has been produc­tive in showing how voting priv­ileges should be taken seriously, especially during closely competitive campaigns.

While candidates and citizens play a large part in deciding gov­ernment positions, the Electoral College is a large determinant of who actually wins. Majority of public opinion is not a determin­ing factor when it comes to the Electoral College.

Though Hillary Clinton re­ceived 47.7 percent of the coun­try’s vote in comparison to Trump’s 47.5 percent, she only re­ceived 228 electoral college votes to his 279, according to Associated Press.

The disparity between popu­lar vote and Electoral vote is nota­bly large.

A similar outcome occurred earlier this season when Bernie Sanders, a candidate who won the popular vote in Wisconsin, lost in the primaries because of the Elec­toral College. The results of both elections show the potential flaws in our current voting system.

This nation has come a long way with the Obama administra­tion, and Trump’s America should be approached with hope to main­tain a country united and passion­ate for its environment, its econo­my and its people.

Barack Obama, our 44th pres­i­dent of the United States, said, “we are now all rooting for his success in unifying and leading the country.”

Cancer Survivor Advocates to Decriminalize Marijuana at Local Level

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Ben Kollock, senior urban for­estry and forest recreation major, was sitting in his environmen­tal ethics class when he first felt a swollen lymph node in February 2014.

What he thought would just be the common cold ended up be­ing much worse. After a visit to the doctor, Kollock discovered he had leukemia, a cancer that attacks bone marrow and the lymphatic system.

Doctors detected the cancer ear­ly before Kollock had to stop school and work to begin chemotherapy in Marshall.

Kollock was isolated as the doc­tors worked to rebuild his immune system, causing nausea and anxiety that no medication could treat. Doctors prescribed him medical marijuana if they could, but for legal reasons they could not.

Many people in chemotherapy mentioned to Kollock that if medical marijuana was available to them, it would help them drink wa­ter and eat simple foods again.

The second that I learned that, I just felt like there’s such an injustice going on that nobody’s really doing anything about,” Kollock said.

Once back to health, Kollock re­searched the politics and science of marijuana.

He began at the local level and communicated with Stevens Point City Council members to request reducing the fine of marijuana possession from $300 to $100. The council voted 7-4 to reduce the fine and lower the severity to the equi­valence of a parking ticket.

Kollock continued to investi­gate that a second offense is an au­tomatic felony, up to six months in jail and possible $10,000 fine.

“The punishment should fit the crime. It does not right now and that is something that needs to be fixed,” Kollock said. “Simple mari­juana possession is not a severe crime in any way, shape or form.”

Kollock does not plan to stop advo­cating for the decriminalization of marijuana.

He wants to eventually lower the first offense fine to $20 and be­come interested in what the structure looks like for the penalties of a first offense to infinity number of of­fenses.

Brett Nuernberg, fifth year communication major, said that the only negative effect of decriminal­izing marijuana he recognizes is that it can dull someone out of­fenses.

“Nuernberg also mention how his former stepmom tried to get medical marijuana to treat full body arthritis. “She said the times that she has consumed marijuana it really helped her relieve stress,” Nuern­berg said. “So, I mean, from person­al experience and informed stories from others, I definitely think the benefits outweigh the consequenc­es tremendously.”

Marijuana involves varying chemical components. Tetrahydro­cannabinol, THC, results in relax­ation, reduced pain and increased appetite as it binds to cannabinoid receptors in the central nervous system and immune system. Cannabidiol, or CBD, is a relaxant that primarily helps with epilepsy, anxiety and sleep disorders.

Arguments against lowering the fine for marijuana possession include concern that marijuana could be a gateway to other illegal activity.

Regardless, it is possible to sep­arate the chemicals in marijuana to address specific needs of users and many states are making changes re­garding marijuana.

In the recent election, voters in California, Massachusetts and Ne­vada approved recreational mar­ijuana initiatives while voters in Florida, North Dakota and Arkan­sas approved medical marijuana initiatives.

Though Kollock confirms that there are many misconceptions and negative images around marijuana, change is happening.

He explains that the plant itself is not addictive, but the mental con­nection could be. Kollock looks for­ward to informing people about the truth regarding marijuana.

Kollock said, “What makes progress happen is you educate people.”
Let's Go to the Winter Farmers Market

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Featuring baked goods, coffee vendors, locally grown fave meat, eggs, and Chef C's Munchie Mobile, Farmshed's first winter market has something for everyone.

The seed for the event was planted when Redeemer Lutheran Church approached Farmshed offering to host a winter market in their gymnasium. Layne Cozzolino, Executive Director of Farmshed, said that the idea of a winter market has always been up in the air, but it was not until they were approached by the church that they secured a location large enough for the event.

Tommy Enright, owner of Black Rabbit Farm, approached Farmshed about a winter market around the same time as Redeemer Lutheran. From there, Enright began working to set up the winter market as a member of the Farmer Advisory Board.

The winter market offers conscious consumers much of the same fresh produce they could find at the summer market. Available at the market, Farmshed's new Frozen Assets program freezes summer

produce to make it available year-round.

Cozzolino said, “I think a lot of times people forget that foods are still available in the winter.”

Tony Whitefeather, owner of Whitefeather Organics, hopes to continue selling longer-lasting produce such as carrots and other root vegetables throughout the winter. In addition to this variety of produce, Whitefeather also sells apple cider and eggs.

In addition to produce, the winter market features two coffee vendors, Whitefeather Organics, and Cozzolino’s Ruby, a coffee company based in Nelsonville. The company aims to provide coffee-drinkers with ethically and sustainably sourced coffee.

Whitefeather hopes to see a lot of community members attending the winter market. “The more customers we get, the more farmers will think that’s the time of year to make a nice indoor cultural event” Whitefeather said.

“I want to see this thing succeed,” Linmeier said.

With the exception of Christmas and New Years, the winter farmer’s market will be held in Redeemer Lutheran Church every Saturday until March 26 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Low Unemployment Rate Diminishes Student Job Search Concern

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Scott Walker promised to add 250,000 jobs to Wisconsin when running for governor. The Bureau of Labor Statistics data confirms that more than 140,000 private sector jobs have been created since he took office, far below the jobs promised.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics states that when Walker took office, Wisconsin's unemployment rate decreased from 8 percent in 2011 to 4.6 percent in 2015.

Wisconsin’s labor force participation rate was 62.4 in July 2015, about five percent higher than that month’s national rate of 62.6 percent.

The BLS defines labor force participation rate as, “The percentage of the population that is either working or actively looking for work.”

The unemployment and labor force participation figures come from the BLS Current Population Survey, which includes self-reported employment and people who work on family farms.

The Wall Street Journal asserts that unemployment rate fails to account for people who cannot find a job and stop searching. Therefore, a low unemployment rate is more meaningful if it is accompanied by a high participation in the labor force.

Wisconsin’s labor force participation rate was higher than the national average even before Walker became governor and Wisconsin’s unemployment rate has consistently been lower than the national average since 1985.

While Walker claims the numbers for his success, the trend is not out of the ordinary for Wisconsin.

As students at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point prepare to graduate, they are encouraged to look for job opportunities before they graduate.

Jackie Burrell, junior dance and geoscience major, hopes to start her own art firm and put on live shows to spread awareness about environmental issues.

“I’m a little bit concerned. I know I need to work hard to make myself look better now because there’s a lot of people trying to compete for jobs,” Burrell said.

Burrell mentions that becoming well-rounded and versatile will help her gain that competitive advantage.

“I think I just need to get out there and do what I can and hopefully if people start seeing what I’m doing, they will support me,” Burrell said.

Daniela Chávez, junior social work and sociology major, plans to help organizations become more inclusive after graduation.

She knows that future employers look for experience beyond getting a degree. She encourages students to get experience through an internship, volunteering, or being a student leader on campus.

“School is great. When I first went to school it kind of opened my eyes to critical thinking which I think is important, but it's 100 percent experience,” Chávez said.

Andy Held, advisor and assistant director for the Academic and Career Advising Center, agrees that some employers are less focused on the degree and would rather see students develop skills that will contribute to their success as a professional after graduation.

“College students in general struggle to think broadly about how their soft skills relate to certain jobs or positions,” Held said.

These “soft skills” include ability to communicate effectively, work in teams, and display flexibility and adaptability among others.

“A low overall unemployment rate is a good sign of the country’s economic health,” Held said. “How employable individual grads are depends on the condition or growth of the specific industry they’re trying work in and their own skill set.”

Megan Schram, freshman graphic design major, plans to land a job in graphic design after graduation.

“Technology and consumerism and marketing is a growing industry. It makes sense that there would be a lower unemployment rate,” Schram said. “I think being able to look at marketing and graphic design, there is always going to be something new.”

Based on the unemployment numbers and her major, Schram is confident that she will have a job after graduation.

Lauri Keefe, career specialist and career development coordinator for the Academic and Career Advising Center, mentions that there will never be a guarantee that graduates will find a job after they graduate, but factors of major, experience, ability to relocate, supply, demand and other personal factors contribute to job preparation and the ability for students to sell themselves.

Each student is uniquely qualified and comes with varied qualifications, motivation, energy and life plans,” Keefe said.

Sue Kissinger, Interim Director for the Academic & Career Advising Center states the three things students need to do to get a job and rewarding career after graduation are choose the correct major, minor and degree, don’t just complete the degree but get experience and be mobile.

“Literally these are the three things that I always tell students they need to do to find a job after graduation,” Kissinger said. “It’s kind of become my mantra and seems to work with any major.”

The Pointer
Women's Basketball Team Takes on Season One Point at a Time

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As the start of the women's basketball season approaches, the players have begun to prepare for the competitive teams they will be up against. Lauren Anklam, senior point guard, is one of the team's captains. In her final season, Anklam is striving to do her best to remain positive and facilitate team cohesion.

"I think it's just kind of an emotional rollercoaster. I try not to think about the end and just live day by day and in the moment. I don't like to think that this is my last of this or that, I want to take it as the journey goes and enjoy it," Anklam said.

Anklam describes the team's senior leadership and dynamic as strong.

Taylor Douglas, senior guard, is Anklam's co-captain. Douglas stresses the importance of staying healthy throughout the season and maintaining a close-knit team.

"We've grown a lot stronger as a basketball team and our relationships now are a lot stronger than they were when we were underclassmen," Douglas said.

As a captain, Douglas leads by example and chooses to address issues head on.

"If there is an issue I won't let it continue. I would rather take care of it and get it over with then let it become a bigger issue," Douglas said.

Shirley Egner, head women's basketball coach, has been coaching the team for 28 years. Egner expects her athletes to be respectful and accountable and the upperclassman to be welcoming and encouraging to new players.

"We try to foster an environment that will help our women grow and be prepared when they are done with their education to be successful in the outside world," Egner said.

Egner admits the players are dedicated students and overall the team has the highest GPA in the athletic department. She is looking forward to watching the players continue to grow.

"It's a 19-week season so we have to be patient with coaches and players. We know it's a journey. It's a marathon, not a sprint," Egner said. "We are going to have some losses; we must be able to reflect upon when we have a loss and how to get better after that."

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AUSTIN KRUEGER
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CROSS COUNTRY CLOSES SEASON AT NCAA REGIONALS

Senior Neil Pederson finished his NCAA Division III Midwest Regional race in 25:31 to place 30th overall in a field of more than 240 runners on Saturday, Nov. 12 at Lake Breeze Golf Club in West Bend, Wis. (Photo by Kylie Bridenhagen.

Behind senior Neil Pederson, the UWSP men's cross country team finished the NCAA Division III Midwest Regional in fifth place out of 33 teams on Saturday.

Freshman Bailey Wolf led the way for the women who placed 13th out of 38 teams competing. She claimed a 39th place individual finish while also posting a sub-23-minute showing in the 6k.

Senior Dane Tyler finished only one second after Pederson, claiming a time of 25:32 as the two finished 30th and 31st.

For the women, juniors Kathy Derks and Emily Schlebecker finished with times of 23:11 and 23:26 to place in the top-100 out of 244 finishers.

SPORTS EVENTS

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After posting a 10-0 lead following the first quarter on Saturday, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point football team allowed UW-River Falls to climb back and win the game 34-16.

The Falcons were able to rack up 34 unanswered points to hold off the Pointers' hot start to their final game of the season.

In senior Kyle Larson's final game of the season, the Pointers quarterback totaled one touchdown during the game.

For the Pointers, senior Ali Biagini notched yet another two goals in the Pointers' victory over the Gusties.

With the game tied at two at the 125 weight class, Sophomore Moziah Clark recorded a fall at 7:11 into his match in the 157 weight class.

The UWSP wrestling squad defeated the University of Dubuque by a slim 22-20 margin after being defeated by Loras College.

Sophomore Moziah Clark recorded a fall at 7:11 into his match at the 125 weight class, while junior Joe Cook also won by fall at the 1:17 mark in his match in the 157 weight class.

On Nov. 11, UWSP men's hockey team rallied back to claim a 3-2 victory over Gustavus Adolphus this past Tuesday.

Fresh off a two-goal outing, junior Ali Biagini notched yet another two goals in the Pointers' victory over the Gusties.

With the game tied at two in the last two minutes of play, sophomore Lauren Smith scored the game winner for the Pointers, putting the team at 2-2-1 on the season.

The Pointers then faced off against No. 2 ranked UW-River Falls on Friday where they fell 2-1 in UWSP's home opener.

The Falcons took advantage of a Pointer penalty as they scored only a minute into a power play opportunity to go up 1-0.

After scoring in the second period, the Falcons scored the deciding second goal only 27 seconds into the final period.

It took until later in the third period for UWSP to get on the board with a goal from Biagini to put the score at 2-1.

The Pointers were not able to get any more offense going as they fell to 2-3-1 on the year.

The Pointers squared up with Concordia-Moorhead and came away with a 6-3 victory.

Sophomore Tanner Karty led the charge for the Pointers by racking up two goals during the game.

Junior Omar Mullan got the scoring started for the Pointers in the first two minutes of play by netting his first goal of the season.

After Concordia tied the game up a few minutes later, senior Lawrence Cornellier got the Pointers back on top midway through the first. Karty then scored his first goal of the game to give UWSP a 3-1 lead before heading into the second period.

In the second period, senior Jacob Barber scored his fifth goal of the season, putting the Pointers up 4-1.

At 6:47 into the last period, sophomore Ryan Stittner tallied his first collegiate goal, giving UWSP a 5-1 lead until Concordia found the net shortly thereafter to bring the game within three.

Karty landed his second goal of the game only two minutes later to put the Pointers back up four points.

The Cobbers scored the final goal of the night, putting the match at its final score of 6-5.

UWSP out-shot Concordia 35-18 in the final minutes of play.

The Falcons took advantage of a Pointer penalty as they scored only a minute into a power play opportunity to go up 1-0.

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UWSP out-shot Concordia 35-18 in the final minutes of play.
Football Players Fight End of Season Nostalgia

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Quarterback Kyle Larson and middle linebacker John Kontowicz reflect on their experiences playing football for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Kyle Larson, senior pre-physical therapy major, is a scholar-athlete and has maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout the football season. Larson is not planning on continuing his football career after graduation, but he is thankful for the friendships he has formed through the sport.

"In the end, we are students and we are human beings and we have to find that balance between life, football and school. You have to make sure you have a reality check every now and then and take a break for yourself," Larson said.

Larson admitted that as the season comes to an end, he is going to miss his coaches and teammates.

As graduation approaches, Larson will be preparing to continue his education. He has submitted applications to five different physical therapy schools.

Larson is ready to move onto the next chapter in his life but will continue to appreciate the experiences he had as a collegiate athlete.

"To really look back on playing four years of college football, that's a huge accomplishment," Larson said.

John Kontowicz, senior business administration major, described his teammates to be his second family.

For Kontowicz, one of his career highlights was beating North Central College when he was a sophomore.

"We had played them the year before that and they were a really good team. It was just a big game that gave us a lot of momentum. It was a really tight game and it was the Pink Game too," Kontowicz said.

After graduation, Kontowicz wants to continue playing at the professional level but is aware that it might be difficult.

"Personally I just love the game of football in general, it's been part of my life since 5th grade. I am going to try and play after we'll see what happens," Kontowicz said.

Off the field, Kontowicz hopes to start a business and is excited at the idea of being his own boss.

Tom Journell, head football coach, admitted he will miss coaching Larson and Kontowicz.

"They are the guys that will get on people when they need to, but it's all by example. They have a professional approach," Journell said.

This past Saturday, Larson, Kontowicz and fellow teammates saw their season come to a close in a 34-16 loss to UW-River Falls.

ENVIRONMENT

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Conventional cotton pads and tampons can be replaced by alternative products like rayon-free, organic, or biodegradable products. Some women have turned to using washable pads, or even reusable silicon menstrual cups.

The stigma surrounding women's menstrual cycles makes it an uncomfortable topic for many to discuss. The impacts of feminine hygiene products and their alternatives are rarely covered, leaving many women unaware of all of the options they can use during their periods.

The lack of education surrounding menstrual cups leaves women asking questions on how to safely use more environmentally friendly options.

Angela Stahl, senior English major, said "I think, like most things menstrual related, there just isn't much talk about it. So some people don't know how it works or what it is. Plus it involves more hands-on involvement in the cycle, which is something that isn't supported either in the big picture."

Menstrual cups are small cups made of silicon or rubber that are used to collect blood instead of absorb it. They can be reused for up to five years and usually only cost about $30. Reusable products can reduce the amount of waste significantly by preventing the waste from pads and tampons from going into landfills.

Since menstrual cups collect liquid instead of absorbing it like tampons, the risk of toxic shock syndrome is much lower. The cup can be left in for up to 12 hours because they hold more blood than tampons. The rubber and silicon are also nontoxic.

There is a general hesitancy among women to use the cups because some consider them unclean.

Oksana Delice Cruz, junior Spanish major said, "I personally just think it's very icky. The process of putting it in, then taking it out to clean. Then having it sit around until the next cycle just grosses me out."

Once women get past the stick factor of reusing a menstrual product, they tend to be very pleased with the environmental and financial benefits of using a cup.

Emma Olson, senior wildlife education major has been using a menstrual cup for about a year. Olson said, "Initially, I thought it would be really gross, but after the first few uses I didn't find it any worse than a nasty tampon. It's a great, easy option to help the environment and it is a lot more convenient than worrying about changing a tampon every few hours."

Alternative period products are on the rise because they are not only healthier for women's bodies but also for the environment.
Green Fund Efforts Pay Off with Building of Bicycle Shelter

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The Green Fund has succeeded in erecting a bike shelter outside the Dreyfus University Center after years of planning. The Green Fund itself is a campus organization that aims to improve sustainability and lessen the environmental impact of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point community. The fund accomplishes this by investing capital in long-term sustainable projects that affect the way our campus uses energy and our shared natural resources.

It is funded through a $12 segmented fee that each student pays yearly, meaning they gain 80 to 100 thousand dollars in funding annually. The bike shelter project has been in the works since the beginning, having gone through cycles of rejection and revision by all parties involved. Getting the building plans approved by the Green Fund board, the campus planner to make sure the aesthetics match, facility services, the Segregated University Fee Allocation Commission and finally the Student Government Association senate is what finally allowed construction to begin.

Many people in Stevens Point, citizens and students alike, ride their bikes. Despite the popularity of this mode of transportation, the University campus still lacks "Bicycle Friendly University" recognition by the League of American Bicyclists. After applying for the certification last year, UWSP was denied for reasons including a lack of covered areas to park bikes. The shelter outside the Dreyfus University Center will help the campus reach that goal.

Justin Seis, junior sociology major, specialty projects coordinator and Green Fund representative of the sustainability office primary author of the shelter proposal, said, "Preserving the longevity of bikes and promoting an alternative form of transportation is very important."

Despite the cold months typical in our area, many students in Wisconsin, riding bikes to campus is an ever-popular choice. Leaving those bikes out in the rain or snow without shelter is a way for them to deteriorate faster than if they were protected.

Having Campus Cycle and Sport Shop close, on the corner of Fourth and Isadore street, helps promote biking around campus and the bike shelter helps protect the bikes.

Unfortunately, not many students are aware of the shelter or have noticed it. Of the handful of students asked for their opinions, none of them knew what the bike shelter was.

Robert Abrahamian, environmental and sustainability affairs director of the Student Government Association and chair of the Green Fund, said they are currently working on doing outreach to spread the word.

Anyone is welcome to send in ideas for new projects. The Green Fund's most recent deadline for project proposals was Nov. 9, but another is coming up in February, and another in April.

So far, three more project proposals will be considered which include LED lighting in the Laird room in the Dreyfus University Center, new labels and standardized waste bins across campus and another proposal for two bike repair stations which would enable students to fix their own bikes with ease at a public work stand.

UWSP's reputation as a green school will continue to expand as the Green Fund accomplishes projects that focus on promoting sustainability on campus each year.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Recognized for Sustainability Efforts

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In September, the Stevens Point Wastewater Treatment Plant received a certificate of recognition for "innovative and forward-thinking practices that are providing sustainable, efficient and value-added services to the community." The certification evaluated public and private utilities from across the United States, Canada and Denmark on their sustainability programs. The utilities were evaluated on their programs that addressed local environmental and community impacts.

Joelle Erickson, senior communications and public relations major, said, "That's how it should be, we should be doing initiatives to make our utilities more self-sustaining." The recognition certificate celebrates the progress and exceptional performance of wastewater utilities.

The Stevens Point water treatment plant received the award due to their use of biogas and their reclamation of biosolids.

The wastewater treatment plant produces about 85 to 95 percent of their power on site with a biogas engine.

Anaerobic digestion, which takes place in the water treatment process, produces biogas. The biogas is harnessed by the facility to create electricity to power the operation. Air compressors are needed to aerate the water tanks and break down the waste. The aeration system is the biggest energy user at the facility according to Chris Lefebvre, the Wastewater Superintendent.

The amount of energy created depends on the amount of waste sent to the treatment center. When the students from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point are on break, the energy demand decreases since the amount of waste decreases.

The biogas project began in 2011, went online in 2012 and has been in use ever since. Currently there are no plans to expand the project and have 100 percent of the energy produced by the plant.

Lefebvre said, "We're doing what we can now, being a municipal setting. Our main concern is meeting permit, and keeping our rates stable. I can't put ahead a project saying we want to be energy neutral if it doesn't have a payback."

In addition to a majority of their power coming from their own plant, the facility has plans to expand its biosolids program. Class A biosolids can be used as fertilizer. Using the residual solids from the treatment facility can be used after they are treated for pathogens. The finished product is applied as a fertilizer instead of mining for phosphorus.

Four of the six employees of the plant are graduates of UWSP, therefore sustainability is a priority for the municipal utility.

The sewage treatment plant creates a full circle with their system by harnessing the methane that would be produced anyway through the water treatment process and using it for biogas energy. Along with their energy sources, the Stevens Point wastewater treatment facility also uses the residual solids to be used as fertilizer.
Neil Hilborn: Brings Light to Darkness at UWSP

Hilborn said he started writing poetry to hilarious jokes for obsessing, making it one of the most interesting inspiration is ideal, he stressed that a more realistic approach to poetry is constant revision.

"The other one that I do more than anything is that I sit down and write a poem every day, and most of them are bad with a bunch of brain garbage, a bunch of clichés and stupid things, but you just have to write through that, get all the brain garbage out and then produce whatever poem is behind that," Hilborn said.

While a lot of Hilborn's poems have funny undertones, Hilborn said, "It's not to his point. The other side to his work revolves around mental health illness and the idea that people, including himself, have gone through.

Hilborn advocates for those that have mental health condition and hopes to bring light to this subject that some find hard to talk about.

"I feel like it's this thing that people always feel so much embarrassment and shame around talking about whatever is going on in their heads," Hilborn said. "It's this thing that is so big and scary most of the time that I feel like if we can laugh about it that it will make things so much easier to talk about.

Hilborn expresses himself on stage, as well as broadcasting his view on mental health illness, was extremely prevalent to his audience.

Leah Trempe, junior English education and drama major, said that the way Neil addresses mental health illness is new and something necessary for people to see.

"It became apparent through watching him that laughing is one of his ways of coping with his mental illness," Trempe said. "He needed to laugh at his situation to make it more bearable as he was becoming so incredibly vulnerable with us in his poetry.

Gigi Stahl, senior English education major also shared her love for Neil's work when she said that spoken word is important because it gives people the permission to feel.

"Neil is amazing because he shines light on the darkest parts of life and always finds something to laugh about," Stahl said. "Hilborn not only helps me to spread awareness about mental health illness, but also his love of spoken word and poetry to as many people as his message will reach.

"There are people that have been doing spoken word forever who inspire others to speak, but I think that the most powerful thing I've ever seen is watching people who are brand new who have never performed a poem before," Hilborn said. "The moment they get up to share something that is a part of themselves and then an audience vibes with it, reacts to it and that moment when people realize and feel so validated and heard by a group of people.

Hilborn said he believes that spoken word and poetry has the power to change the world and that he has seen it happen on multiple occasions.

"I have seen so many people who feel like they didn't have a voice become empowered by the art form and take that to other arenas," Hilborn said. "I know a lot of the spoken word community is very intertwined with a lot of activist communities. I think that it's a little bit of an underground art from involved with social change, but I think it's a really big vehicle and motivator for social change.

Hilborn said his ultimate goals as a performer are two things: to make people laugh and to make people feel like they're not alone.

"I think that we spend so much of our lives being serious and even in my show I try to tell a lot of jokes because people aren't trying to have feelings for an hour," Hilborn said. "Feelings are important and it's important and serious, but I think in a lot of ways that it's almost more important to be able to laugh about things.

"Our Numbered Days," is a compilation of poems written by Hilborn and can be bought on Amazon or through Button Poetry.

For more information about Hilborn you can follow him on Facebook at, facebook.com/neilhilborn/
Are you graduating?

If you have any questions about Commencement on December 17, 2016, visit the Commencement website at www.uwsp.edu/commencement.

- RSVP online to walk at the ceremony by Friday, December 2.
- Purchase caps, gowns and tassels at the University Store December 5-9, Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m. If you are out of the Stevens Point area, call 715-346-3431 to mail order your cap and gown package to be shipped December 5-9.
- Reserve and/or claim your six general admission tickets for the ceremony. Tickets will be distributed December 5-9 at the UW-Stevens Point Information and Tickets Office in the Dreyfus University Center. Hours are 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Monday-Friday. A Student ID is required.

IMPORTANT!
If you are unable to pick up your tickets between December 5-9, please call the UW-Stevens Point Information and Ticket Office at 715-346-4100 or 800-838-3378 to reserve them. If you do not, tickets may not be available for your guests.

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Humans of Point

How often, if at all, do you utilize the library on campus?

Glorian: "I honestly don’t use the library a whole lot just because I can find most of my sources online for classes. If I do go to the library it’s to use the Tutoring and Learning Center in the basement. They’ve been really helpful helping me get through different classes as well as the writing lab.”

Brett: “I’d say I use the library about every other week or so, mainly during my busy times. It’s a good place to go to get away from everything. I prefer using the study rooms you can use and sign out. They are very useful, especially for group projects.”

Do you think it is a useful resource for students on campus?

Glorian: “I think it can be really useful, especially when you’re first coming to school here. It offers really great study places as well as a lot of different media sources that you can use there and of course, like I mentioned earlier, the Tutoring and Learning Center is really nice to help anyone whether it be freshmen or seniors get through different classes or help with other things.”

Brett: “Yeah, it’s a very useful resource. There are lots of computers and printers there as well and a lot of people struggle to find a printer around campus, but the library has a lot to offer.”

Is there a spot you prefer to study on campus if it is not at the library?

Glorian: “I prefer to study in my room or in the study places in the residence halls. If I am somewhere else on campus the Brehwahus is always another really great option for a study location.”

Brett: “Since I live in the Suites, I like using the kitchen and lounge area. There are not very many people that use it. It’s got good lighting and there are a lot of windows, so you can get a lot of natural light and also it’s just quiet in there.”

GLORIAN KONIECZNY
is a senior psychology with a human services emphasis major.

BRETT STUCKERT
is a senior wildlife research and management and biology major.
 Jon Bellion, brilliantly mash electronic sounds with human made sounds to take the listener to another place in time. A converted Christian, Bellion crafts his songs to have a positive feel, while mixing it up with some heavier lyrics.

No two songs of his are the same. They all have their own distinct use of sounds. From high layers of harmonies to a driving electronic base beat, it will make you want to get up and dance.

The album opener, “He is the Same,” starts out with a high-pitched beeping noise that stays constant throughout. Layering over the beeping sound, a beatboxer gets the beat started which is later replaced by an electronic bass.

Throughout the first verse, Bellion continues to layer more sounds, using brass instruments with just a hint of an orchestra.

Bellion’s tenor voice floats above the music.

At the end of the song, Bellion hits some incredibly high notes, making it sound breathy and not like his own. Bellion ends by manipulating his voice, making it echo and ripple as it fades out.

Lyric wise, “He is the Same” talks about struggles that the protagonist faces in their personal life, yet the protagonist tries to convince themselves that everything is still the same. They don’t want to face their problems.

“Weight of the World,” the ninth song on the album, has a completely different feel. With guest artist Blaque Keyz, Bellion explores chorale voices and acoustic guitars to complement his own voice.

Right away a large choir echoes him in the background. The strums of the acoustic guitar and later piano sets the mood for this song as a more somber, yet heartwarming tone.

The song is a plea, saying that the protagonist can’t do everything.

In the instrumental interlude, the acoustics start to fade out until all that is left is the choir vocals. Out of nowhere, the beat hits you like a brick wall and Blaque Keyz starts a short rap that ends the song.

The final song, “Hand of God-outro,” brings back the bass beat, but twists in Bellion’s Christian beliefs.

He smashes all his different sounds and his guest artists together in this final song. Orchestra accompaniment, full choir, bass beats, electronic sounds, it’s a music overload.

The lyrics speak of not losing faith, that if you fall, pick yourself back up and start again. No matter what you’re struggling, you don’t have to be perfect.

Halfway through the song, he makes a reference to a few of his songs on the album, tying the whole album together, making it feel complete.

A gorgeous tenor that is not Bellion, riffs above the music, making it the icing on top of the cake. At the very end, there is a final beep, tying it back to the first song.

Overall, this is a must have album. The lyrics are relatable and the groovy beats will have you dancing in no time. You can’t go wrong with Jon Bellion.