

# Lewis helps patients know the enemy

## Books by University Staff

BY DALE BARBOUR  
The Bulletin

Faculty of Medicine research associate Keith Lewis has worked for biotechnology companies and now the University of Manitoba attempting to understand cancer, what makes it work and what can be used to treat it.

But with his new book *Cancer?? What you need to know: Causes, Treatments and Concerns*, Lewis isn't offering a synopsis of the latest research in the field, he's helping people understand what cancer is.

"I've worked in cancer research for 12 years and I've had a lot of people ask various questions about cancer," Lewis said. "I've come to realize that they didn't have a fundamental understanding of the disease."

Existing books didn't help either because most of them tend to gloss over the biology behind the disease. The problem is if people can't understand the biology behind the disease, then they can't understand how the various treatments aimed at stopping it work either. And Lewis said that's critical for people wanting to make informed decisions about their treatment options and for understanding what's happening to them while they're being treated.

"Once you do understand the biology then you can talk about the drugs that are used and how they work," Lewis said.

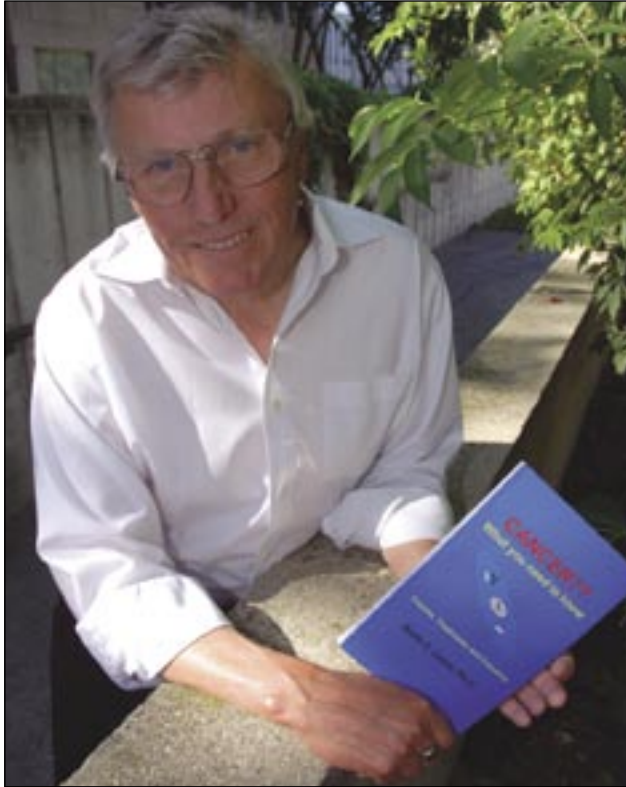


Photo by Dale Barbour

Research Associate Keith Lewis's new book *Cancer?? What you need to know: Causes, Treatments and Concerns* is something patients and people in the health care field can use.

It's an ideal book for someone who is fighting cancer and wants to know everything they can about

the enemy. Lewis also walks readers through the causes of cancer, prevention, how it spreads and the mechanics behind each method of treatment. Reading the book can help patients know what their physician is telling them and it could be of use to nurses fielding questions about the biology of cancer.

The book goes on to cover some of the myths and conspiracy theories around cancer such as the notion that a cure exists but is being covered up. Not even remotely possible, Lewis argues. From a pure commercial point of view, biotechnology companies would love to be on the ground floor of a cure for cancer. Even simpler, the researchers trying to find a cure for cancer have lost loved ones to the disease – in fact Lewis's dedication at the start of the book is to friends and family of his own that have succumbed to the disease. There's no incentive for them to withhold a cure for the disease.

Lewis's own research involves looking at the impact of antibodies on cancer cells. He has contributed over 30 scientific articles to international journals, but this is the first time he's sat down to write a book. More significantly, it's the first time he's written something intended for the general public.

"I've always had an interest in teaching," Lewis said, and his background has included working as a lecturer. "And I realized there was a place for a book like this."

While the subject matter is weighty, Lewis said he enjoyed being able to step outside academic writing.

"This was much more enjoyable. I've written scientific papers and entries for textbooks but it's not the same experience," Lewis said.

## Golf tourney benefits student food bank

The University of Manitoba 7<sup>th</sup> Annual All Staff Golf Tournament was held at the neighbouring Southwood Golf and Country Club on Aug. 20.

Despite the cloudy skies, tournament participants managed to avoid the rain for the majority of the day. There were 112 people registered from many university departments at the Fort Garry and Bannatyne campuses. Due to the immense popularity of the event, many teams had to be placed on a waiting list.

The tournament was endorsed and supported by vice-president (administration) Debbie McCallum and associate vice-president (administration) Alan Simms.

The tournament provided an opportunity for staff to get together and supported the fundraising initiative of the University of Manitoba Student Food Bank. The donations of dry goods and cash exceeded \$500. Jane Lastra, director of financial aids and awards, received the donations to supplement the expenses many students have throughout the year.

The grand prize draw consisted of an i-pod shuffle, his and hers University of Manitoba matching watches and a radio carrying bag.

This year's winning team with a score of -7 under par, was Team UMSU, with Darryl Smith, Ron Davey, Jared McKetiak and Jack Hoplock. The second place team with a score of -5 under par was Team Pooh, with Sean Vint, Bob Barth, Allan Borsboom and Bert Requeima.

The women's longest drive was won by Carol Ploen-Hosegood. The men's longest drive was won by Ron Pluchinski and the closest to the hole was won by James Lund. Unfortunately, there were no winners for the \$10,000 hole-in-one prize which was sponsored by the organizers of the tournament.

Tournament organizers Ed Matias, Chris Bohonis and Linda Lavallee did an excellent job organizing the event and their efforts were greatly appreciated. Although entries for next year's tournament will not be accepted until an E-memo has been sent out by the organizers, staff are encouraged to plan for next year's All Staff Golf Tournament.

Donations of both food and money to the University of Manitoba Student Food Bank can be made by attending the financial aid and awards office, 422 University Centre.



Photo by Dale Barbour

From left, Karen Woloschuk, Julie Mikuska, and Siobhan Kari look on as Carol Ploen-Hosegood putts out at the University of Manitoba's 7th Annual All Staff Golf Tournament.

## Bison squad ranked #4

The Manitoba Bisons football team is ranked fourth prior to the start of the 2007 season in the first CIS Top 10 poll of the season.

This is the highest the Bisons have been ranked starting a season since 2002 (ranked second).

The defending CIS football champion Laval Rouge et Or are ranked number one with Canada West champion and Vanier Cup finalist Saskatchewan Huskies ranked second, Ottawa Gee-Gees (Mitchell Bowl finalist) in third and rounding out the top five is the Montreal Carabins (QUFL semi-finalist).

Bison football head coach Brian

Dobie commented, "This is where we thought we would be ranked but now begins the business of earning the ranking as this is a new season."

Voting is based on a 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 point system, with a first-place vote worth 10 points. Laval took 140 points, Saskatchewan 115, Ottawa 112, Manitoba 105 and Montreal well back with 55 points.

The CIS football top ten committee is made up of 15 media members from across Canada. A total of 10 national rankings will be released for the 2007 season, with the final Top 10 being released once all teams have completed the regular season.

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