

# Innocent first turns deadly

What begins as an innocent first romance turns to deadly obsession when a charismatic young man sets his sights on a 16-year-old girl in "Fear," a provocative suspense thriller from Imagine Entertainment and Universal Pictures.

Nicole Walker always dreamed of being swept away by someone special - someone who was strong and sensitive and cared for her more than anything else in the world. At first Nicole is mesmerized by David, a polite, respectful - yet sexy - charmer she meets at a "rave" party, having slipped out for a wild night with her thrill-seeking best friend Margo.

But then Nicole catches a glimpse of David's dark side, and her dream becomes a nightmare. When she tries to break free, her family is forced to draw together in order to confront David's determined, vicious attempts to take her back.

Directed by James Foley and produced by Brian Grazer and Ric Kidney, "Fear" stars Mark Wahlberg as David and Reese Witherspoon as Nicole. William Petersen portrays Nicole's father, Steve, who is faced with the grim

challenge of protecting his daughter and holding the family together in a time of violent crisis. Amy Brenneman plays Nicole's stepmother, Laura, and Alyssa Milano is Margo.

"This is a film about extremes," says director James Foley. "Moments of conventional calm are followed by shocking revelations, as the characters' passions - either sexual passions or anger or love - drive them to do things that are incredibly emotionally eventful. What matters to me is the psychological ferocity behind their actions."

Foley, who is best known for directing such reality-based dramas as "Glengarry Glen Ross," "After Dark My Sweet" and "At Close Range," says he was attracted to the project because it explored contemporary ideas about relationships, family and sex within the framework of an entertaining thriller. He points out that what passes today for acceptable behavior is often at odds with our more basic instincts.

Producer Bran Grazer believes "Fear's" original screenplay, written by Christopher Crowe

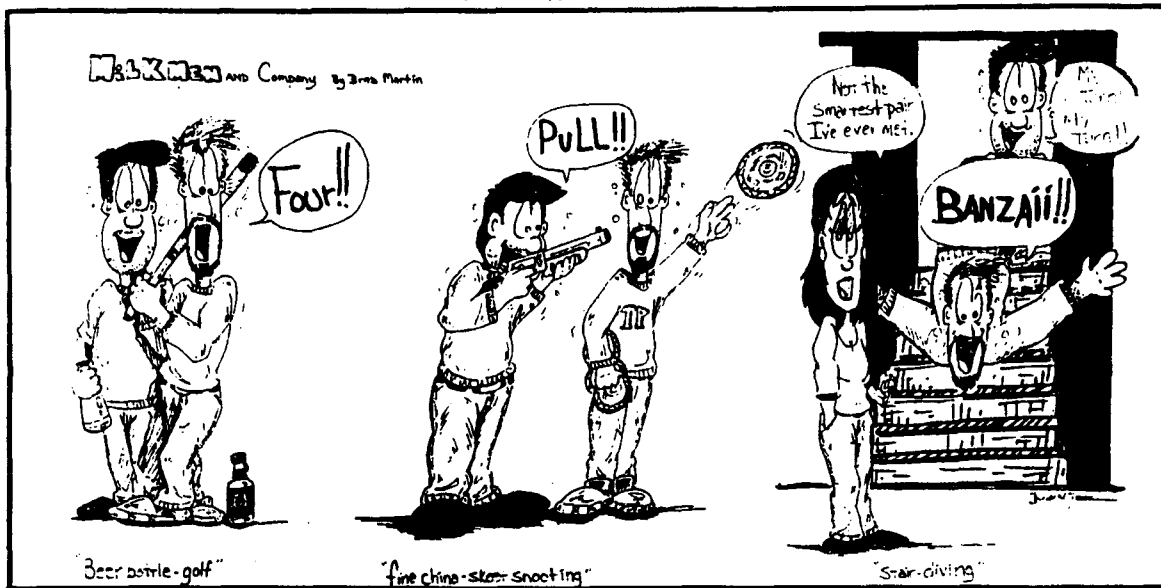
Steve looks into David's background and discovers he's not who he says he is. Armed with the truth, he confronts David, warning him to stay away from Nicole.

Enraged by her father's interference, Nicole is drawn closer to David... that is until she visits David's house one

night unnoticed and watches him commit the ultimate betrayal with Margo.

David has lost Nicole forever, but he can't accept it. For him, love means control, and he is prepared to destroy everyone and everything in his path to get back what he's lost. Bent on revenge, he begins a deadly assault on the Walker family.

Determined to protect his daughter, Steve breaks into David's house and uncovers frightening evidence that his daughter is being stalked by a mad man. In an explosive showdown, the Walkers must come together as a family to fight a terrifying battle for their lives.



Mark Wahlberg and Reese Witherspoon in James Foley's *Fear*.

## Sound Reasoning:

### Survivors Bad Religion and Steve Earle produce winning CD's

By Keith Harrison  
College Press Service

*"The Gray Race"*  
Bad Religion  
Atlantic  
4 stars

Persistence has paid off for those aging punks in Bad Religion. This Southern California band got its start in the early '80s, as the lights were going out on punk's first era. They kept slogging through the lean years that followed, and now they've found themselves anointed as elder statesmen of the punk revival and selling crateloads of records to boot.

Happily, this is one instance in which the adulation is as deserved as it is late-coming. "The Gray Race" bristles with first-class punk rock: It's all buzzsaw guitars and break-neck speed

drumming, topped by the band's ace in the hole, the great, raspy voice of Greg Graffin.

And in an alternative-music universe renowned for angst and apathy, Bad Religion's commitment to intelligent, socially conscious lyrics is heartening. Songs on "The Gray Race" address global population growth, the failed rebellions of the Woodstock and first punk eras, and the state of the American dream-all without getting too preachy.

Still, whether they'd admit it or not, Bad Religion has smoothed over the rough edges on a few tunes, creating radio-friendly romps like "A Walk" and "Punk Rock Song."

Yet that's a minor quibble; anyone who wants a completely raw, uncompromising blast of punk power, after all, probably has to go seek out the Clash's

classic first album. That comparison aside, "The Gray Race" more than holds its own in the punk pantheon.

*"I Feel Alright"*  
Steve Earle  
Warner Bros.  
4.5 stars

Funny how things work out sometimes.

Roots rocker Steve Earle is the first to admit that his addiction to heroin easily could have had him 6 feet under ground by now. Instead he's an ex-con and recovering junkie who has created two of the finest discs released in the past 12 months.

For the first, last year's "Train A Comin'," Earle turned in an acoustic set that had the intimacy of a back-porch jam session. He's plugged in again on the new "I Feel Alright," and the bold,

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