

## Jagged Edge

Oaks Six Theater

Courtroom dramas are always exciting. Even if we think we know whether or not the person on trial is innocent (and in this movie, we're never sure), we still don't know if the jury is going to know it.

*Jagged Edge* is the latest movie in this tradition, and it is the best of its type since *The Verdict*. In the beginning, we witness a brutal and shocking murder. Then we meet Jack Forrester (Jeff Bridges), the husband of the woman killed. The district attorney immediately suspects him of the murder, because Forrester's wife owned everything, even their home and business, a newspaper. He is charged with the sensational murder right away.

The lawyer that Forrester convinces to defend him is Teddy Barnes (Glenn Close). Slowly, all the pieces fall into place. The district attorney is planning to run for office, and Forrester's newspaper has been running negative editorials about him. Barnes used to work for the district attorney, but she quit her job four years ago, because of the unethical practices he employed on a controversial case.

So, everyone has a personal grudge against everyone else, and they all want to find out if Forrester



Glenn Close (l.)

did it. No one is ever sure, including the audience. Even after the verdict has been announced, we are kept guessing, right up to the very end of the movie.

And that is half the fun. The audience was laughing, cheering, and thinking out loud all through

the movie.

I don't mind being manipulated, especially when it's this exciting and entertaining. *Jagged Edge* is a crowd pleaser, and what better compliment could you pay to a movie?

By Michael Giltz