With the broad markets rallying in the second quarter to eclipse the highs set back in March of 2000, we see it fitting to re-visit a fundamental tenet of stock market investing: Bear Markets. Why re-visit such a painful topic during a period of record setting performance? Because experience has shown us that investors tend to have notoriously short memories. Fueled by the misconceptions spread by the financial press, investors tend to extrapolate recent history. When times **have been** recently good, they tend to project even more good times in the future. When times **have been** recently bad, they tend to project even worse doom and gloom. Intelligent investors do the opposite. We must recognize that good times can be interrupted at any time. More importantly, we must also recognize that bad times never continue indefinitely.

Bear markets are loosely defined as a 20% drop in the broad market averages from peak to trough. Although they are a death sentence for short term speculators, for long term investors, they offer a phenomenal opportunity for wealth creation. To illustrate, consider the chart below detailing the last twelve Bear Markets in the S&P 500 since the end of World War II, provided courtesy of Nick Murray's excellent book "The New Financial Advisor":

Bull Market Top	Bear Market Bottom	# Days Duration	% Decline in S&P 500
5/29/46	5/17/47	353	-23.20%
4/6/56	10/22/57	564	-19.40%
12/13/61	6/26/62	195	-27.10%
2/9/66	10/7/66	240	-25.20%
12/3/68	5/26/70	539	-35.90%
1/11/73	12/6/74	694	-45.10%
9/21/76	2/28/78	525	-26.90%
4/27/81	8/12/82	472	-24.10%
8/25/87	12/4/87	101	-33.50%
7/16/90	10/11/90	87	-21.20%
7/17/98	8/31/98	45	-19.30%
3/24/00	10/23/02	929	-52.00%

S&P 500 Annualized Return May 1946 – June 2007 = 11.46%

We can describe these twelve bear markets using four key terms:

- **Regular** Over the past sixty years, bear markets have occurred approximately once every five years.
- **Painful** On average, bear markets have reduced a \$1,000,000 stock portfolio to \$700,000 over the course of a little more than a year.
- **Healthy** Short term speculators tend to sell shares during bear markets in fear of incurring even greater losses. Long term investors like us are happy to purchase their shares from them at substantially discounted prices.
- **Temporary** Without exception, the US Stock market has recovered from every single bear market in its history and gone on to reach higher highs.

As intelligent investors, this last term "temporary" is the only thing that matters to us. No matter how ugly they may get, bear markets never erase any investor's wealth. The only way to turn the temporary fluctuations of a bear market into permanent realized losses is for an investor to sell shares. If we never allow you to lose your faith in the resiliency of the stock market, you will never sell your shares during a bear market. And if you never sell your shares at depressed prices, you will never, ever lose money in a bear market. Rest assured, you will be handsomely rewarded for this discipline: Every one million dollars invested at the bull market top of 1946 is worth over seven hundred and sixty million dollars today.

We are the first to admit that we have no idea when the next bear market will occur. However, when it does, we will continue to confidently adhere to the disciplined investment approach which has served us so well.

Don Davey Senior Portfolio Manager Disciplined Equity Management, Inc.

		listed below. Please refer to your DEM account state			•	
Asset Class		Portfolio	*2007 Return	Symbol		007 YTD Return
US Large Cap	DFLCX	DFA US Large Company Portfolio	6.93%	SPX	Standard and Poor's 500 Index	6.96%
	DFLVX	DFA US Large Cap Value Portfolio	8.90%	RUT	Russell 2000	6.45%
US Small Cap	DFSCX	DFS US Micro Cap Portfolio	6.09%	EFA	EAFE Index	11.09%
	DFSVX	DFA US Small Value Portfolio	7.08%	WRT	Wilshire REIT Index	-6.19%
Real Estate	DFREX	DFA Real Estate Securities Portfolio	-6.30%	LBBI	Lehman Brothers Treasury Bond Index	1.91%
International DFALX	DFA International Large Cap Portfolio	11.21%		*Taken from DFA Returns 2.0 Program, a se	ource believed to be reli	
	DFIVX	DFA International Value Portfolio	13.24%			-1
DFISX DISVX DFCEX	DFISX	DFA International Small	13.82%			- ~
	DISVX	DFA International Small Value	13.96%			A
	DFCEX	DFA Emerging Markets Core	23.05%			4
Fixed Income DFIHX		DFA One-Year Fixed Income	2.64%			-
	DFIGX	DFA Intermediate Government Fixed Income	2.47%			
	DFGFX	DFA Two Year Global Fixed Income	2.48%		DISCIPLINED EQUITY MANAGEMENT, IN	IC.
	DFGBX	DFA Five Year Global Portfolio	2.16%		Engineered Portfolios	



