



Guide to the Texas Film FestiWorks nsight Indie is kin BY

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The characters in *Origin of the Species* play the game of *Life*. The film will be featured at Hollywood 16.

Origin of the Species Starring Elon Gold and Amanda Peet Directed by Andrés Heinz

Origin of the Species follows in the footsteps of Lawrence Kasdan's The Big Chill and John Sayles' Re turn of the Secaucus Seven: old acquaintances get together for a weekend, renew relationships and wax

Six late-20-somethings — Paul (Gold), Julia (Peet), Stan (Jonathan Lapaglia), Laura (Jean Louisa Kelly), Fisher (Michael Kelly) and Kate (Sybil Temchen) — return to Paul and Julia's Westchester, N. Y. home for

the ninth time in as many years. Whether it is love, children or testicles (Stan had testicular cancer), all seem to be missing something in their lives. Laura was told by a psychic she will hook up with Stan this weekend; Fisher just wants to get laid; Kate is reconsidering her breakup with Stan; Pavil wants to talk proposed bout Darwinism; and lu-Paul wants to talk nonstop about Darwinism; and Julia is pregnant but does not want to be.

— Jeff Schmidt

Dancer, Texas Pop. 81 Starring Breckin Meyer and Peter Facinelli Directed by Tim McCanlies

Dancer, Texas Pop. 81 opens with four guys sitting in the middle of a less-traveled highway, writing a letter to Rand McNally requesting that Dancer be put on the map.

Ironically, when these boys were 12, they vowed to leave Dancer for Los Angeles as soon as they graduate high school. Guess what? They just graduated

Keller (Meyer) is the ringleader of the attempted relocation. "Attempted" because each one seems to find a reason to stay in Dancer. After all, the film tells us some people are big-town people and some are small-town people.

Keller is definitely a big-town person. He is all packed up and ready to leave. It's his friends that have the problem letting go: Terrell Lee's (Facinelli) mother wants him to stay behind and learn the oil



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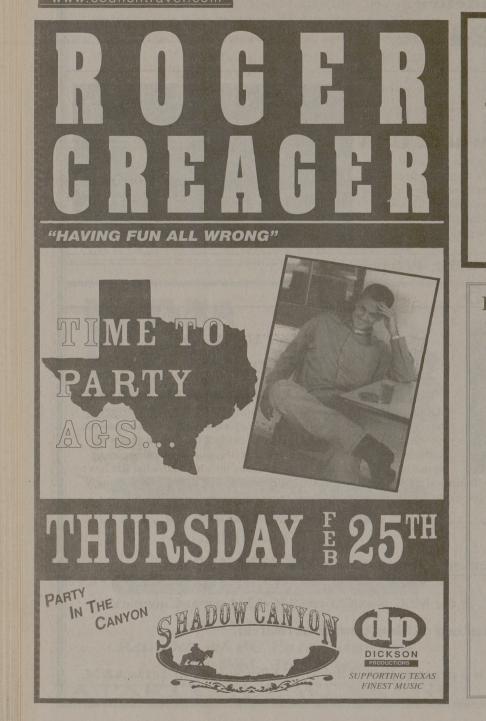


business from his father; Squirrell (Ethanbi.m. needs to look after his alcoholic father, and (Eddie Mills) just feels more at homeinD

Dancer is McCanlies' feature-lengthdm but and is semi-autobiographical. McCan Bryan native, went to school at Texas, Texas and SMU before heading west for the glo Angeles.



The boys from Dancer, Texas discuss life town. The film will be featured at Rudder and





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