Lousy script dooms 'Captain Ron'

Russell, Short can't keep inept comedy from sinking at sea

NEW YORK (CNS) — A bumbling father gets in over his head when he takes his family on a Caribbean cruise on their newly inherited sailboat and hires Captain Ron (Touchstone).

When mom and dad (Mary Kay Place and Martin Short) and Caroline (Meadow Sisto) and Ben (Benjamin Salisbury) arrive in the islands, their quarter-million-dollar sailboat looks more like a risky rust bucket with a scruffy, one-eyed captain (Kurt Russell) to match.

Promising to teach them sailing en route to Miami, Captain Ron instead gets them involved with guerrillas, pirates and unlikely escapes at every port of call.

Short and Place try very hard to inject some kooky humor into the contrived proceedings, but director Thom Eberhardt's inept comedy soon sinks. In addition to the leaden script, Russell's character is such a smirking,

plastic concoction that one wishes he would walk the plank five minutes after he surfaces in the movie.

When a film endures at the box office week after week it is said to have legs. Captain Ron doesn't even have the requisite sea legs.

Because of brief shadowy nudity, some sexual innuendo and stylized violence, the U.S. Catholic Conference classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned that some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.



John Bramley-Touchstone Pictures Kurt Russell stars as Captain Ron, a bedraggled, happy-go-lucky seafarer in the movie Captain Ron.

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