



Hollywood Beat

Cousins is a relatively good film

By DAVID GIAMMARCO
Cousins, an American remake of the 1975 French film Cousin, Cousine, tries to capture the warmth and crazy foibles that made Moonstruck such a huge success last year. Cousins misses the bullseye somehow, but in its own appealing way, manages to succeed on its own level.

Ted Danson plays Larry Kozinski, a dance instructor who has had many opportunities in his many

previous jobs for wealth and prestige. He refuses all of it so he can lead a trouble-free life. His wife Tish (Sean Young) is glamorous and neurotic, constantly complaining that nobody takes her seriously because of her looks.

Larry's son Mitch is a modern day radical with little interest in anything other than murder, girls and more murder. The kid definitely has serious problems.

Isabella Rossellini plays Maria Hardy, wife of man-about-town Tom Hardy (William Peterson). Maria is a kind, caring wife and mother who tries her best to ignore her husband's wild lifestyle and voluminous affairs.

So when Larry's uncle marries Maria's mother, they become cousins by marriage and fast friends by accident. But when Larry's wife Tish decides to have an affair with Maria's husband Tom, the two spurned mates decide to band together and pretend to have an affair as well, just to get back at their respective mates.

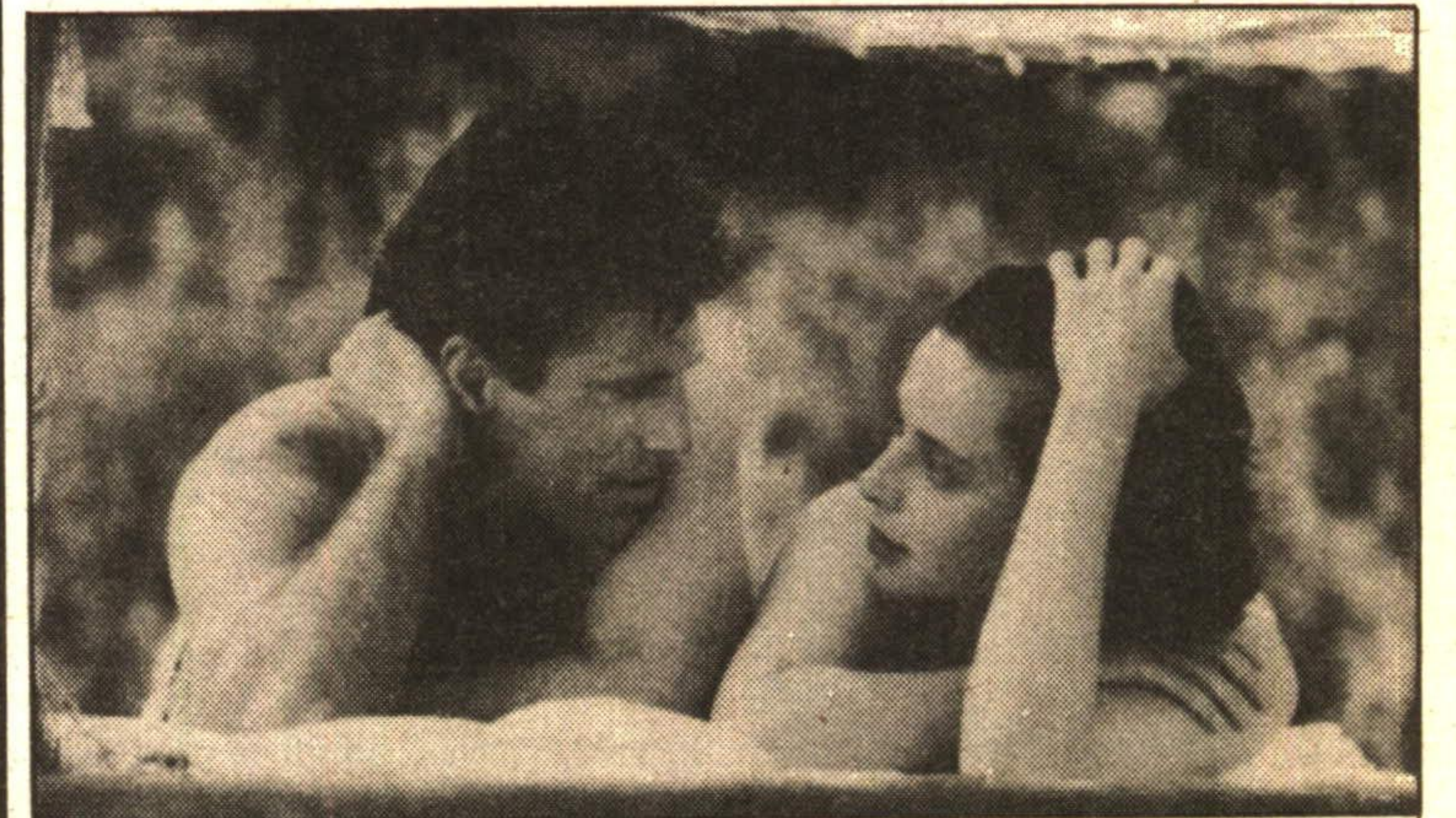
But somehow along the way, Larry and Maria fall deeply in love and become more than just friends, and what results is both families in an uproar of bittersweet love.

What I'm going to say about Cousins is that it's a good, enjoyable, quirky film. Although some scenes are drawn out, for the most part it keeps you captivated in these families' ties of turmoil, turbulence and true love.

Great performances all around. This is a real departure for Danson and his wisecracking character of Sam Malone from TV's Cheers for which he's become famous.

Equally as good is Rossellini, whose beauty at times is clouded over in this film, but she is delightfully enchanting. She has such qualities that she simply transcends film.

And Sean Young is a real highlight of the film as well, with her wry, sarcastic sense of humor and frenzied temperament lending perfect balance to the other characters. Out of 10, Cousins rates a seven.



Ted Danson and Isabella Rossellini as the cousins by marriage who soon fall deeply in love in Cousins.

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