

JOHN O'HURLEY: STANDARDS BEARER

TV and Broadway actor performs one-man show, **'A Man with Standards,'** Sept. 8 at Coaster Theatre

By ERICK BENGEL
COAST WEEKEND

John O'Hurley, the suave showman with the buoyant baritone known for his work on "Seinfeld," "Dancing with the Stars" and the stage musical "Chicago," is taking a fresh-off-Broadway trip to the North Coast.

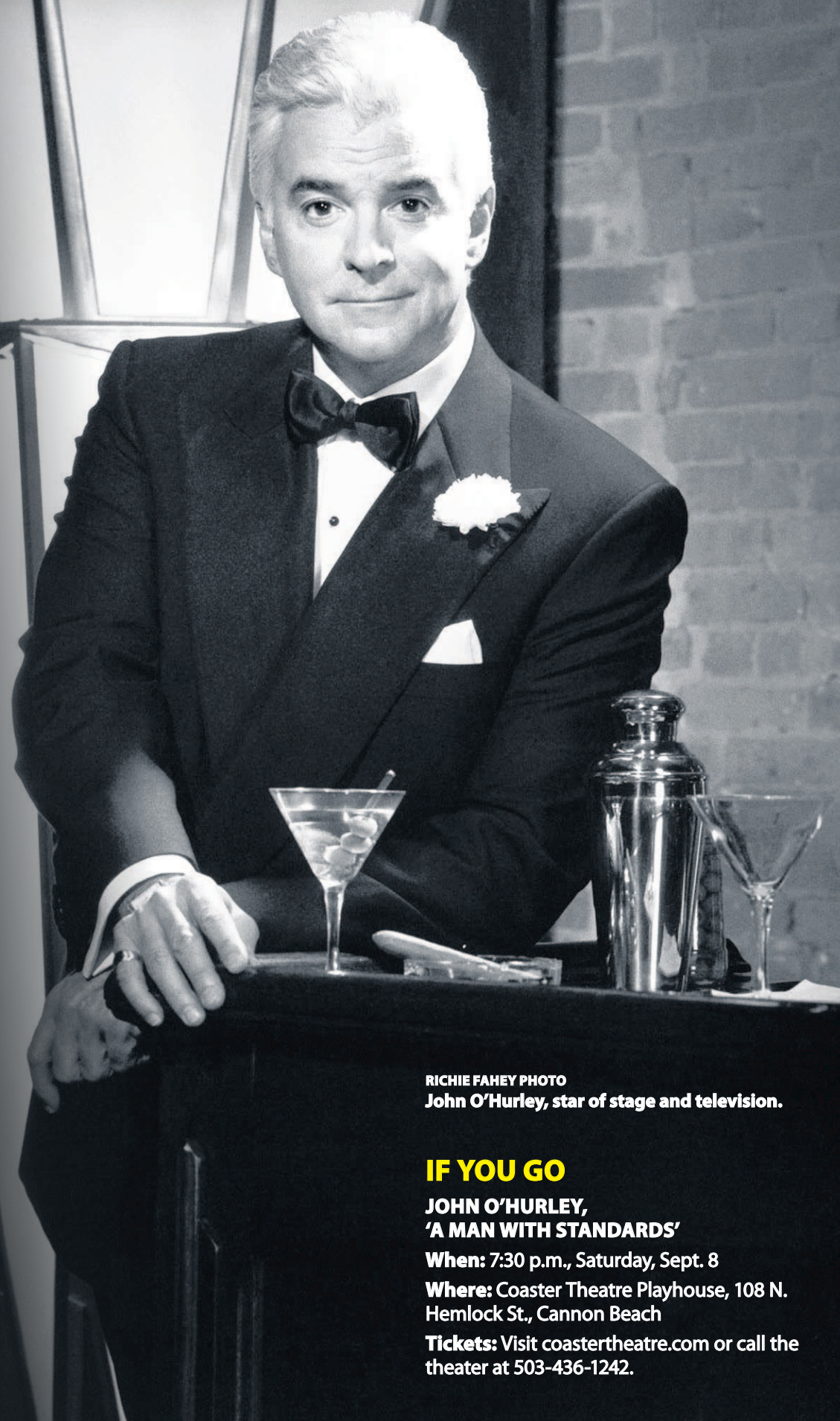
At Cannon Beach's Coaster Theatre Playhouse on Saturday, Sept. 8, O'Hurley performs his one-man show, "A Man with Standards," a song-filled look at the wonderful, wacky, singular moments from his life and career.

O'Hurley recalls his early years as an entertainer — he once sang for Frank Sinatra at 2:30 in the morning at The Chairman's house — and his decades as a TV star. He is perhaps best known for his role on "Seinfeld" as J. Peterman, the grandiloquent, style-obsessed boss of Julia Louis-Dreyfus' Elaine Benes.

"Standards" carries multiple meanings here: O'Hurley's persona is one of an urbane man of fine taste who sets a high bar for himself, and the songs featured in his show are old standards from the Great American Songbook — the soundtrack of his youth.

"I was also lucky enough to grow up around men who had standards," he said in an interview with Coast Weekend. "I grew up in the age of gentlemen, and I like that — and I try to hang close to the values that my father and his friends and the men that I grew up around maintained."

The lyric melodies of Sinatra, Henry Mancini, Anthony Newley and other midcentury singers have remained with O'Hurley, "in my head and in my heart," he said.



RICHIE FAHEY PHOTO
John O'Hurley, star of stage and television.

IF YOU GO

JOHN O'HURLEY,
'A MAN WITH STANDARDS'

When: 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 8

Where: Coaster Theatre Playhouse, 108 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach

Tickets: Visit coastertheatre.com or call the theater at 503-436-1242.