

# Accused in bicycle thefts groomed for court

**Making brief appearance to set date for next one, Igor Kenk shows up clean-shaven, wearing slacks and oxfords**

**ANTHONY REINHART**

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Accused bicycle thief Igor Kenk was a man transformed when he returned to court yesterday, sporting a clean-shaven face and combed, collar-length hair.

Mr. Kenk, the used-bicycle dealer facing theft and drug charges after police seized more than 2,700 bikes he had stashed around Toronto's west end, looked more prepared for the art gallery than the court gallery as he sat in the back row of Courtroom 112 at Old City Hall, waiting for his case to come up, right leg draped primly over the left.

Gone were the straggly mane and beard, orange jail-issue jumpsuit and runners of his earlier court appearances. Yesterday, the 49-year-old wore blue-grey slacks, a navy collared pullover and a pair of brown oxfords, as Judge Brent Knazan ordered him to return to court on Sept. 24.

With that, Mr. Kenk left the court briskly, trailed by a phalanx of reporters who lobbed questions into a void of silence punctuated by footsteps.

Mr. Kenk faces 58 charges in all, including 35 counts related to bicycle theft, 21 federal charges related to drug possession and trafficking, one count of possession of the proceeds of a crime, and possession of a stolen computer. Since his arrest on July 16, police have recovered hundreds of bicycles during searches of 12 properties, and have returned more than 300 to their owners.

Later yesterday in the same courtroom, co-accused Jean Laveau, 47, was to appear on one count each of theft, attempted theft, possession of stolen property and possession of burglary tools, but was remanded into custody until today after his lawyer was unable to make it to court.

Asked by Judge Knazan whether he was satisfied with the one-day delay, Mr. Laveau replied, "Not really, sir."

Police allege that they watched Mr. Kenk and Mr. Laveau steal one bicycle and try to take another near Mr. Kenk's Queen Street West shop on July 16, then promptly arrested them. Mr. Kenk made bail last weekend, while Mr. Laveau has remained in custody.

Mr. Kenk's wife, Jeanie Chung, 37, also faces possession charges involving drugs and stolen property police say they found inside the couple's home on Berryman Street in Yorkville. Ms. Chung was released on a promise to appear in court.