

# Kemper Trial Oct. 15

By TOM HONIG  
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Accused murderer Edmund Emil Kemper has pleaded innocent to eight counts of murder and is scheduled for a jury trial Oct. 15.

After entering the plea in Santa Cruz Superior Court today, defense attorney Jim Jackson asked the court to reserve his client's right to plead innocent by reason of insanity at a later date.

Earlier in the hearing, Judge Harry Brauer denied motions by the defense to dismiss two of the eight murder counts against Kemper. Jackson had asked for the dismissals, saying the state had insufficient evidence to charge Kemper with murdering Aiko Koo and Anita Luchessa.

In making his ruling, Brauer  
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Miss Luchessa had no suicidal tendencies and was "full of the desire to live."

Since a hip bone identified as belonging to Miss Luchessa was found near her slain companion, Mary Ann Pesce, Brauer said it was likely death was caused by a criminal act.

Kemper, clad in an orange jumpsuit issued by San Mateo County jail authorities, remained silent throughout the proceedings except to answer "Yes, sir" to Brauer when asked if he agreed to the entry of a plea of innocent.

The 6-foot-9 suspect sported a beard as he was lead into court by three guards. His general appearance is much improved since recent court dates, most notably the time he showed up in court recovering from a suicide attempt.

Asst. Dist. Atty. Art Danner represented the people at the hearing, offering no objections to Brauer's rulings, nor to the scheduling of Kemper's jury trial in October.

said the evidence against connecting Kemper with Miss Koo's death is substantial.

"When you find a head and a severed torso with evidence they belong to the same person, inferences may be drawn that they do in fact belong to the same body," Brauer said.

As for Miss Luchessa, Brauer admitted the corpus delecti "is not overwhelming," but he said the evidence was sufficient to force Kemper to face the charge of murdering the Fresno State coed. The judge noted