

# Rand surprises crowd

By GLENN CHAPMAN  
and DEAN C. BALSAMINI  
ADVANCE STAFF WRITERS

The overflow crowd that converged on the Stapleton Criminal Court building was surprised by a bearded Andre Rand as the transient stood before the friends and family of Jennifer Schweiger during his court appearance.

Many court spectators noted that the 43-year-old Rand had abandoned his listless behavior for an apparently alert, rigid demeanor.

"(Rand) looked like a normal person, as I believe he is," said Glenna O'Hare, one of the volunteer searchers.

Rand, sporting a full-grown beard — which he was ordered to shave before he appeared in line-ups yesterday — was escorted into the courtroom around 12:30 p.m. He stood erect and expressionless, while his attorney argued.

"If you don't know him good, with this beard you wouldn't recognize him," said Michael Moudatsos, owner of Mike's Souvlaki, a Forest Avenue restaurant frequented by Rand during the past year.

"That guy (Rand) is really a smart cookie, the way he changed his appearance," said the Rev. Henry Gentile, pastor of Holy Family R.C. Church, Westerleigh, base of the volunteer effort to find Jennifer Schweiger.

According to Nellie Dallas, an aunt of a missing New Dorp girl whose case is one of many with possible links to Rand, she and the child's grandmother, Francis

Dendeiarena, were on hand "to be here for this and see him in person."

"It's hard to explain finding yourself here for something like this after so many years," Mrs. Dallas said, clutching a poster bearing Alice Pereira's picture. "I don't know how to react to this."

Alice vanished from a park near her home in the Tysens Apartments in July 1972.

Patty Lonzello, the aunt of

Holly Ann Hughes, another missing Island girl whose disappearance police say may be connected with Rand, was solemn as she sat in the courtroom waiting for Rand to appear. Prior to the hearing, Miss Lonzello met with members of the Pereira family.

Minutes before the court proceedings started, Jennifer's parents, Kenneth and Karen, along with Mrs. Schweiger's cousin, Dennis Wonica, were whisked into



Ken and Karen Schweiger arrive at the courthouse.