

Student fails to tag Rand

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A Staten Island high school student testified yesterday that he saw Jennifer Schweiger walking 10 feet behind a man on the day she vanished. But the youth could not identify the man as accused kidnap-killer Andre Rand.

David Sheehy, 15, said he spotted Jennifer walking on Markham Place toward Jewett Ave. in Westerleigh about 2 p.m. on July 9, 1987. She was 10 feet behind an "older man," said Sheehy, who

had been riding a bike home from his supermarket job.

Sheehy lived around the corner from Jennifer, and said he had known the Down's syndrome girl all her life. The body of the 12-year-old was found Aug. 12, 1987 in a shallow grave near a campground used, police say, by Rand.

Under cross examination in Staten Island Supreme Court, Sheehy said he did not know the man who was walking in front of Jennifer and did not know if they were together. The youth twice failed to pick Rand

out of a police lineup.

Earlier, Detective Ralph Aquino testified that he picked up Rand, 43, a drifter, for questioning and that Rand denied ever being with Jennifer the day she vanished. Rand, according to Aquino, denied knowing who Jennifer was.

The child had gone outside her Westerleigh home to play while her mother cleaned the pool. She never returned, sparking the most massive search in Staten Island history. Her family has since moved to Lakewood, N.J.