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with an older, unkempt man, identified by all but one witness as Rand. The two were last seen on the grounds of the former Staten Island Developmental Center in Willowbrook, a short distance from where Rand maintained a campsite.

A bloodhound trained to track human scents followed a 28-block course that paralleled many of the areas where witnesses said they saw the two walking hand-in-hand and ended on the center grounds near where they were last seen.

The girl's partially decomposed body was found Aug. 12 in a shallow grave about 500 feet from Rand's campsite. Felig said the discovery "brought a feeling of shock and outrage to the Staten Island community."

Rand was dressed in an outfit in which he often appeared during the trial — a brown sport jacket with tan slacks and a cream-colored striped shirt with the collar open.

on her family to gain her freedom.

He pointed out that a cause of death was never determined, and there was no evidence of a physical assault. There also was no known motive for the kidnapping, he said.

Giovinazzo said his client was convicted of a "serious crime, but not a heinous one." He insisted Rand was merely trying to help the girl to return to Willowbrook when they became separated. Rand believed she had been a resident of the center and had strayed away, his lawyer claimed.

Felig noted that while other children have disappeared on Staten Island in recent years and were never found, "none seemed to touch the hearts of Staten Island residents as the disappearance of Jennifer Schweiger."

Felig's reference to other missing children apparently was a veiled allusion to at least three other missing person cases in which police say Rand is a suspect.

The judge, referring to the massive search that had taken place

Rand, who has been variously characterized as an ogre and as a Pied Piper, appeared to gaze straight ahead as the judge imposed the sentence, giving no signs of emotion. His hands were handcuffed behind his back.

Rand declined to make a last-minute statement on his own behalf. He also had refused to speak to the Probation Department when an officer sought to interview him for a pre-sentencing report. He did not testify at the trial.

Assistant District Attorney John Loughrey, noting Rand's silence, especially before the Probation Department, said the defendant had an opportunity to "mitigate circumstances by talking," but he refused.

Loughrey said Rand's previous criminal history, dating back to 1969, seemed to have a correlation in the disappearance and death of Jennifer Schweiger.

In 1970, Rand was convicted of a felony sexual abuse count that emerged from an attempted rape

charge in the Bronx and served a 16-month prison term.

In 1983, he was convicted of an unlawful imprisonment charge, a misdemeanor, in connection with driving a group of children to Newark Airport without their parents approval. The children watched planes take off and land and Rand fed them at a fast-food restaurant before returning them unharmed to the Island. He received a 10-month City Penitentiary term on this charge.

In addition to the impact that the case has had on the dead girl's parents, Loughrey called attention to the community interest the case generated and noted that it "altered the way people lived, especially if they had children. They were afraid."

He called on the judge to impose the maximum sentence.

Giovinazzo, in pleading for a minimum sentence between the 15 and 25 years, which the judge was empowered to impose, said there was no evidence that the girl had been forcefully seized or that any demands had been made



Supreme Court Judge Norman J. Felig sentences Rand to the maximum sentence.

for Jennifer, said those who took part "felt a personal loss" when the body was found.

Felig questioned Giovinazzo's assertion that no force had been used on the girl. The judge said this may have been due to a trusting nature that witnesses testified about. Referring to the void in the prosecution's circumstantial evidence case about what actually

happened to the girl, the judge said "perhaps we will never know what really happened."

The fact that there was "less evidence" in the case than many would have liked "doesn't lessen the enormity of the crime," Felig said.

The judge indicated he was satisfied with the jury's guilty verdict on the kidnapping charge.

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