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25 years to life added to 30-year sentence of Yonkers man's killer

By **BILL HUGHES**

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL NEWS

(Original Publication: September 13, 2007)

NEW YORK - After cursing at the family of his victim and the judge who sentenced him, the killer of Yonkers resident Christopher Mariconi was hauled away in handcuffs yesterday to serve an additional 25 years to life on top of the 30 years he is already serving.

Trevor Frederick, a 29-year-old illegal immigrant from Grenada, sneered and yelled, "Go (expletive) yourselves!" as Mariconi's family applauded while court officers led him away. Frederick was convicted in July of second-degree murder for killing Mariconi, a college-bound, 23-year-old employee of Sara Lawrence College who was killed on Nov. 7, 2003.

Mariconi was on his first date with Frederick's ex-girlfriend, Jenae Aragosa, when Frederick burst into her Manhattan apartment, stabbed her, then advanced on Mariconi.

After three trials, it is still unclear whether Frederick pushed Mariconi out of Aragosa's fifth-floor apartment window or whether he fell in an attempt to escape the knife-wielding Frederick.

Wounds on Mariconi's hands and neck indicated that Frederick had also stabbed him with the same knife he used to attack Aragosa.

After his first trial ended in a mistrial, he was convicted at a second trial of assault, attempted murder and other charges, and sentenced to 30 years in prison. The jury deadlocked on the murder charge.

While his third trial on the murder charge did not clearly establish exactly what happened, state Supreme Court Justice Ronald Zweibel said Frederick is nonetheless guilty of second-degree murder.

Mariconi's mother, grandfather and two of his aunts yesterday read deeply personal pleas, asking Zweibel to impose the maximum sentence and order that Frederick serve the sentence consecutively to those for his prior convictions.

"The thought of my son's last moments, filled with fear, will haunt me for the rest of my life," said his mother, Robin Mariconi Benack. "The day he murdered my son, he murdered me as well. It was as if someone reached into my chest and ripped my heart out."

Frederick read from a long, rambling prepared statement, minimizing the events of the night as "an error" in his otherwise law-abiding life.

In sentencing Frederick to the maximum, Zweibel said, "For taking the life of an innocent man, you should forfeit your right to ever be a free man again."

After pronouncing the sentence, the judge added, "Since I will be long-since retired by the time you are eligible for parole, I am now recommending that you never be released from prison for the rest of your natural life."