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Friday night, author, composer and singer, Perla Aguirre, performed at ACCESS ART Gallery on Main St. in Oranjestad.

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On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Still a suspect in the disappearance of Natalee Holloway

Joran v/d S. arrived in Amsterdam

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) - A Dutch man who Aruban police had detained in connection with an American teen's disappearance in May arrived Tuesday in the Netherlands following his release, despite an appeal by Aruban prosecutors to keep him on the Caribbean island. Joran van der Sloot, 18, a resident of Aruba, and two Surinamese brothers who were suspects in the disappearance of American teenager Natalee Holloway, were released Saturday on condition they remain available to police. Van der Sloot was scheduled to attend college in Holland, his mother said.

Van der Sloot and his father arrived at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport, and were greeted by a woman bearing flowers. The group ignored questions from reporters and quickly departed.

The Public Prosecutor's Office of Aruba said Tuesday that it had unsuccessfully sought a



Eighteen-year-old Joran van der Sloot, left, a resident of Aruba who had been held by police on the Caribbean island in connection with the disappearance of American tourist Natalee Holloway, exits Schiphol airport accompanied by unidentified relatives in Amsterdam, Netherlands, Tuesday Sept. 6, 2005. The investigation into the disappearance of a U.S. teen "will not cease" despite the release of the three suspects, Aruba's prime minister said Monday, even as a Dutch youth held in the case left the island for Holland.



Eighteen-year-old Joran van der Sloot, center exits Schiphol airport accompanied by unidentified relatives in Amsterdam, Netherlands, Tuesday Sept. 6, 2005. The investigation into the disappearance of a U.S. teen "will not cease" despite the release of the three suspects, Aruba's prime minister said Monday, even as a Dutch youth held in the case left the island for Holland.

(AP Photo/Peter Dejong)

(AP Photo / Peter Dejong)

judge's order blocking Van der Sloot's departure, arguing that by traveling to Holland he was violating the terms of his release under which he was required to make himself available to investigators.

The prosecutor's office, in a statement, said it had wanted to question Van der Sloot on Tuesday. But the judge rejected a request to make him stay on the Dutch Caribbean island and an appeal court supported that decision.

Holloway was last seen May 30, on the last day of her high school graduation trip to Aruba, leaving a bar with van der Sloot and the two brothers, Satish and Deepak Kalpoe.

The three were arrested June 9 on suspicion of involvement in Holloway's disappearance. All denied any connection to the disappearance. Van der Sloot acknowledged spending the evening before her disappearance with Holloway, but denied any wrongdoing.

The release of all three suspects was a serious setback to the

prosecution and the biggest blow yet to Holloway's family, legal observers say. But police insist the investigation into Holloway's widely publicized disappearance will continue. Holloway's mother, Beth Holloway Twitty, left Aruba for her home in Mountain Brook, Alabama on Sunday after spending about three months on the island pressing for authorities to solve the case. Twitty will return to the island later in the week to start preparing for a more permanent move back to Mountain Brook.

"Presently, we are conferring with attorneys as to possible legal action. We understand there are certain appeal processes available. The family wants to pursue all possible charges against the individuals who we believe are involved, such as obstruction of justice, conspiracy and kidnapping," stated Natalee's Uncle Paul Reynolds during a live interview on Scared Monkeys.com. □