



The News

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by Sarah Heath

Cold weather has taken hold in France as 33 départements in the northern half of the country are placed on orange alert for snow and ice this morning. The area stretches from Morbihan to the Bas-Rhin. As a result of difficult conditions, school transport has been canceled in several départements. Air traffic in the Paris region has also been disrupted, with about one in four flights canceled from both Orly and Roissy. Travelers who can do so, have been advised to postpone their trips.

Prison sentences of between 2 and 18 years have been handed down by magistrates who delivered their verdict yesterday during the trial of the Nice terrorist attacks. All defendants were found guilty in the trial which has lasted for more than 3 months. On July the 14th, 2016, 86 people lost their lives and more than 400 were injured in the attack.

Adrien Quatennens has come out of media silence after several weeks and has denounced reports made about him. He granted an interview to the newspaper La Voix du Nord and claims to be the victim of a political coup. He has just been handed a 4 month suspended prison sentence after being found guilty of abuse against his companion.

19 départements have been selected by the government for an experiment on RSA reform. A 12-month experiment will take place with beneficiaries receiving a form of solidarity income. Each recipient will have to work between 15 and 20 hours a week to be able to receive the allowance. It will go through a contract of engagement which will be signed systematically with all beneficiaries.

The festivals of Avignon, Vieilles Charrues and the Interceltique de Lorient will take place in the summer of 2024 according to an announcement yesterday from the Ministry of Culture. Their planning was threatened by the Olympics taking place around the same time. Rescheduling will allow the festivals to go ahead without coinciding with the Games.

And finally to football news on a huge day for the Blues. The French team faces Morocco tonight in the semi-finals of the World Cup in Qatar. Kick-off is at 8 o'clock. The winner of this match will face Argentina who won their match to reach the final by easily beating Croatia, 3-0.