



## The News

**February 16<sup>th</sup>, 8am** ©

*by Emma Phillips*

Today there is strike action scheduled across the country against the government's proposed pension reform. The bill is being discussed in the Assemblée Nationale today. There are demonstrations planned across France in the fifth round of industrial action against the reform. There is less disruption ahead than in previous strike days, particularly in terms of transport, with 4 out of 5 high speed TGV trains running and half of Intercité trains. In terms of air travel, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation has warned of disruption at the airports of Paris Orly, Marseille, Toulouse, Lyon Montpellier and Nantes with up to 30% of flights cancelled. Between 450 and 650,000 demonstrators are expected at rallies held throughout France today.

In the Assemblée Nationale, members of parliament have until tomorrow evening to discuss the bill. To speed up the debates, the left-wing alliance Nupes decided last night to withdraw several dozen more of the thousands of amendments that had been tabled.

The two passengers who fled from Pierre Palmade's car last Friday are now in police custody. The actor got into a head on collision with another car while under the influence of cocaine, seriously injuring the three people in the car and causing the female passenger to lose her baby. Palmade tested positive for cocaine and has been taken into custody after a spell in hospital after the accident. The two young men in their 20s who were also in the car had fled the accident in Seine et Marne.

The body of the woman that was found dismembered in Paris' Parc des Buttes-Chaumont has been identified. It is a 46-year-old mother, from the suburb of Montreuil who had been missing since January 31<sup>st</sup>. Parts of her body, including her limbs and head, had been found in garbage bags in the park. An investigation for pre-meditated murder has been opened.

And finally, actor Tahar Rahim will play Charles Aznavour on the big screen. The 41-year-old actor will play the beloved singer in a biopic co-directed by the poet Grand Corps Malade. The feature film will be shot over the summer, with a release scheduled for 2024.