

The News February 20<sup>th</sup> 6pm© by Noele Bouazouni-Prier



The decision had become unavoidable: The Commercial Court of Marseille ordered the compulsory liquidation of the shoe brand San Marina. No serious takeover offer has been accepted for the group, which employs more than 600 people in 163 stores in France. They all closed down last week.

Pierre Palmade is targeted by a new investigation. A man contacted the police this weekend to implicate the comedian by accusing him of acts of child pornography. The accusations were taken seriously by the investigators who searched the Parisian home of Pierre Palmade. They left with a computer in particular that is currently being analysed. In the meantime, the comedian remains under house arrest in the hospital with an electronic bracelet following his road accident 10 days ago in Seine et Marne. Under the influence of cocaine, he had hit a car, causing 3 serious injuries.

Also in the news, Joe Biden pledges \$500 million in additional military aid to Ukraine. The American President came to announce this in person during a surprise visit to Kiev today. This was his first visit in the country since the beginning of the Russian invasion almost a year ago. The resident of the White House also recalled the unwavering support of the United States, while promising new sanctions against the Vladimir Putin's.

The Reunion Island holds its breath as it awaits the passage of Cyclone Freddy. It should come through this evening with strong gusts of wind. As a consequence, schools are closed today and tomorrow. The prefect of the island calls on the population to stay at home tonight to avoid accidents. Gusts of wind will reach up to 130km/hr and waves will rise up to 6 meters.

And then in rugby, the manager of Castres, Pierre-Henry Broncan is dismissed from his post. He pays for the poor results of his team, currently 11th in the top 14.