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The News

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by Noele Bouazouni-Prier



They are threatening to bring France to a standstill. All the unions representing the SNCF are calling for a renewable strike from March 7. The CFDT-Cheminots has joined the call of Unsa-ferroviaire, Sud-Rail and the CGT. They form a united front to maintain pressure on the government in the battle over the pension reform. After very eventful debates in the National Assembly, the text arrives tomorrow in the Senate.

In the rest of the news, Gap France is facing difficulties. The Grenoble commercial court requested yesterday the placement in receivership of the 20 franchise stores of the ready-to-wear brand. 360 jobs are threatened. This is a new blow for the empire of businessman Michel Ohayon, already owner of Camaïeu which was closed down in September, and of Go Sport, also placed in receivership.

Pierre Palmade will soon be in prison. The Paris Court of Appeal validated today his placement in pre-trial detention. The 54-year-old comedian will be tried for homicide and involuntary injuries after the road accident he caused on February 10 under the influence of cocaine. Victim of a stroke on Saturday while he was under surveillance in an addiction service, the actor is currently hospitalized at the Kremlin-Bicêtre.

300 new assistant lawyers will be recruited this year. This was announced this evening by Eric Dupond-Moretti. The objective for the Minister of Justice is to provide an effective criminal response in order to fight petty crime and resolve civil disputes faster. Divorces, family matters and common disputes represent 60% of current cases.

And abroad, the Turkish President Recep Erdohan has apologized for the delay in relief - 3 weeks after the devastating earthquake that hit his country and Syria, killing more than 50,000 people according to the last report.

And then who will be named the best football player of the year? The answer this evening in Paris with the Fifa *The Best* ceremony. Lionel Messi, world champion with Argentina, is a big favorite. Kylian Mbappé and Karim Benzema are also named.