



The News

March 9th, 9am ©

by Emma Phillips

High school pupils and university students will be protesting the government's pension reform today with a demonstration that will leave from Saint Lazare in Paris at 2 pm and will march towards the Place de la Republique. Meanwhile, the union the CGT is calling for a day with a huge drop in the amount of energy used, in particular due to a lot less energy generated in power stations and by continuing to block the country's oil refineries. Transport also remains disrupted. Article 7 of the pension reform was adopted last night by senators. This is the article which most of the controversy hinges on as it provides for pushing back the legal retirement age from 62 to 64.

Explosions were heard in the Ukrainian capital of Kiev this morning as well as in Lviv Kharkiv and Odessa due to fresh rounds of Russian strikes. At least four people have been confirmed dead. The Zaporijjia nuclear power plant is now without electricity.

In Val-d'Oise, a police officer was handed an 8-month suspended prison sentence last night for failing to assist a person in danger. The 48-year-old was on trial as while on duty he had received a phone call from a woman who wanted to report that her former partner was being violent towards her. However, instead of helping her, the officer ignored her claims and insulted her. The next day, she was beaten by her former partner.

The future of Corinne Deacon as manager of the French women's football team hangs in the balance today. The executive committee of the football federation are meeting to decide whether she needs to be shown the door after three of the team's players, including captain Wendy Renard, pulled out of the team two weeks ago due to Deacon's management style.

Paris Saint Germain are now out of the Champions League after losing last night 2-0 to Bayern Munich.

And finally, music hall star Marcel Amont died yesterday at the age of 93. Amont's hits included 'Bleu, blanc, blond' and 'Le Mexicain'. He was famously the opening act for Edith Piaf when she performed at the Olympia in 1956.