



The News

January 19th, 8am ©

by Emma Phillips

The verdict is expected today in the trial of the three police officers who assaulted Théodore Luhaka during an arrest in 2017. Théodore is now 29 and in the past few days has described to the Assize Court of Seine-Saint-Denis how his life has been devastated by a ruptured sphincter after police forcibly inserted a truncheon. He stated that he was disabled, spent a lot of time at home and felt “dead”. Back in 2017, the assault sparked a wave of protests against police violence and the President at the time, François Hollande, went to visit Théodore in hospital. Now, up to the three years suspended prison sentence has been requested for the three police officers responsible for the assault.

A suspect has been arrested in Ariège more than 15 years after the murder of Caroline Marcel. Caroline, who was 45 when she was killed in 2008, had gone out jogging near a river in the Loiret where her body was later found. The suspect, who was 18 years old at the time of the incident, denies any involvement. Yesterday, he was placed in pre-trial detention and will be brought before an examining magistrate before tomorrow and could be charged.

The snow has stopped in the north half of the country, but the cold and icy conditions continue. In Hauts de France, all school transport is suspended today as is the case in Eure and Seine Maritime. Météo France has also kept Orne and Calvados on amber alert for flooding.

And finally, to handball and the European Championships and France made it through their first main draw match yesterday by the skin of their teeth, ultimately beating Croatia 34/32. France remain at the top of their group and face Iceland tomorrow afternoon.