



The News

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by Emma Phillips

The farmer protests are due to step up a gear today as unions are calling for a siege of the capital that could last several days. Unions FNSEA and Young Farmers are planning to block the main routes into Paris from 2pm. Police are warning motorists to expect traffic delays throughout the Ile-de-France and are urging local residents take public transport instead. In the meantime, the farmer road blockades continue on the A7 and A480 motorways near Grenoble and the A9 motorway near Nîmes.

Gérald Darmanin has announced that 15,000 police will be deployed to prevent the farmers' tractors from entering Paris and other major cities. Armoured vehicles belonging to the gendarmerie vehicles put into position yesterday evening near the Rungis food market outside Paris and Charles de Gaulle airport to prevent access to these hubs from being blocked. The Minister of the Interior has called on police to exercise moderation, stressing that direct intervention must be a last resort in the event of damage or destruction.

As a result of farmer protests, a black Monday lies ahead for traffic on the roads. Plus, taxi driver unions are also calling for protests in Paris, Lyon, Nantes, Toulouse and Montpellier. They are in a dispute with the health insurance authorities over the new measure for medical transport.

And finally to rugby and Stade Toulousain won against Racing 92 last night 27-20 at La Défense Arena at the end of day 13 of the Top 14. Racing 92 remain top of the leader board while Toulouse bolsters its 4th place.