



The News

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by Emma Phillips

The trial of Pierre Palmade gets underway today at Melun criminal court. The actor and comedian is facing charges of aggravated involuntary injury after he caused a serious road accident while driving under the influence of drugs in February 2023. Three people were seriously injured, including a woman who was seven months pregnant who then lost her baby. When proceedings opened, Pierre Palmade stated that he did not wish to be tried for manslaughter. As a repeat offender, he faces a 14-year prison sentence and a fine of 200,000 euros.

The mother of baby Santiago remains free under judicial supervision. The Bobigny public prosecutor's office had requested that she be held in custody. The 25-year-old woman is facing charges of kidnapping and illegal confinement in an organised group after she and her partner abducted their prematurely born baby from hospital in Aulnay-sous-Bois in late October. Baby Santiago was later found in Amsterdam.

Meanwhile, farmer protests are ongoing, including in Lot-et-Garonne where the préfecture is warning motorists of disruptions on the département's roads. Earlier today, Michel Barnier had a phone call with representatives of the union Coordination rurale. The prime minister is said to have made promises for farmers, although union representatives are still awaiting commitments in writing. Last night saw 30 farmer actions across France. Farmers are intending to bury the EU free-trade agreement with Mercosur.

And finally, to rugby and Fabien Galthié has announced the line-up for France's test match against Argentina. The team does not include Gregory Aldritt but Charles Ollivon will be making an appearance. France will be playing Argentina on Friday at the Stade de France, the last of their three autumn test matches.