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ELSINORE—Citizens of Denmark are still in shock as they try to assess the stunning events of last week. King Claudius, Queen Gertrude, and Laertes (son of Polonius, the late Lord Chamberlain) were fatally stabbed or poisoned during what had been assumed to be a fencing contest in the royal palace.

As if these events were not sensational enough, they took a bizarre twist when Prince Hamlet, who himself had appeared to succumb to some lethal dose, recovered consciousness. It is reported that His Highness is now in apparent good physical health.

Representatives of the Prince and officials of the Royal Court have agreed that all questions of his accession to the throne

should be held in abeyance pending the outcome of a trial in which the Prince himself has been charged with the murder of Polonius. It appears that Prince Hamlet has some defenses to the charge, one of them being his mental competency (criminal responsibility).

The prosecution and defense attorneys have agreed that, before any trial on homicide charges related to the death of Polonius, there will be an earlier, separate trial. A twelve-person jury will be called upon to determine the sole issue of Prince Hamlet's mental competency at the time Polonius was stabbed. The jury trial on the Prince's competency is scheduled for February 26.