

What to WATCH

STAR SPORTS SELECT 1

English Premier League
Man City v Liverpool
Live from 5:30pm
Leicester v Chelsea
Live from 8:00pm
Stoke v Man United
Live from 10:30pm

STAR SPORTS SELECT 2

England v West Indies
3rd Test, Day-3
Live from 4:00pm
US Open
Women's Final
Live from 2:00am (Sunday)

TEN 1

Serie A
Juventus v Chievo Verona
Live from 10:00pm
Sampdoria v Roma
Live from 12:45am (Sunday)

MONTPELLIER TAKE AN 'L'

Montpellier have apologised to fans after realising that every single one of their 2017/18 shirts has been sold with the club's name misspelled on the crest. The Ligue 1 club were made aware of the error on the jerseys, both those sold as replicas and those worn by players in the opening matches of the season. Montpellier only realised the mistake after several fans, who had noticed the aforementioned danger on their shirts, worried that they may have purchased fakes and tweeted the club with photos of the offending badges, which all bear the name 'Montpellier'. Montpellier responded with a statement issued on their club website, apologising for the oversight and offering fans a range of reimbursement options from exchanges to full refunds.

—AGENCIES



Stephens ousts Venus

Sets up final with Madison Keys

AFP, New York

Americans Sloane Stephens and Madison Keys, both struggling with serious injuries just three months ago, advanced to their first Grand Slam final at the US Open on Thursday.

Stephens, who missed 11 months with a left foot injury before returning in July, outlasted seven-time Slam champion Venus Williams 6-1, 0-6, 7-5.

"I'm super happy to be in a Grand Slam final," Stephens said. "To do it here, my home slam, is obviously more special. I think this is what every player dreams about."

US 15th seed Keys, who had left wrist surgery for the second time in 10 months after a first-round French Open exit, routed US 20th seed CoCo Vandeweghe 6-1, 6-2 in 66 minutes to complete the first all-American US Open final since Serena Williams beat sister Venus in 2002.

"It still doesn't feel real. I'm still shaking," Keys said. "I played pretty well. There's a lot of things in my head right now so I'm struggling to come up

with words.

"I knew I had to rise to the occasion. I'm just happy to be in the final."

The friends and Fed Cup teammates will meet Saturday at Arthur Ashe Stadium in the biggest match of either's career for a top prize of \$3.7 million (3.07 million euros).

"I've known her for a long time. She's one of my closest friends on tour," Stephens said. "I love her to death. And it's not easy playing a friend."

Stephens, who was wearing a walking boot in June and ranked 957th in July, has won 14 of her past 16 matches, with semi-final runs at Toronto and Cincinnati.

"I have no words to describe what I'm feeling, what it took to get here, the journey I've been on," Stephens said.

"It's incredible. I don't know how I got here. Your guess is as good as mine. Just hard work. That's it."

Stephens beat Keys in the second round at Miami in 2015 in their only career meeting.

"Sloane is a new person right now," Keys said. "She's so excited to be out on the court again. I'm excited we get to

play each other in the US Open final."

Stephens needed a thrilling break at love in the penultimate game and closing hold of serve to deny two-time champion Williams her first US Open final in 15 years.

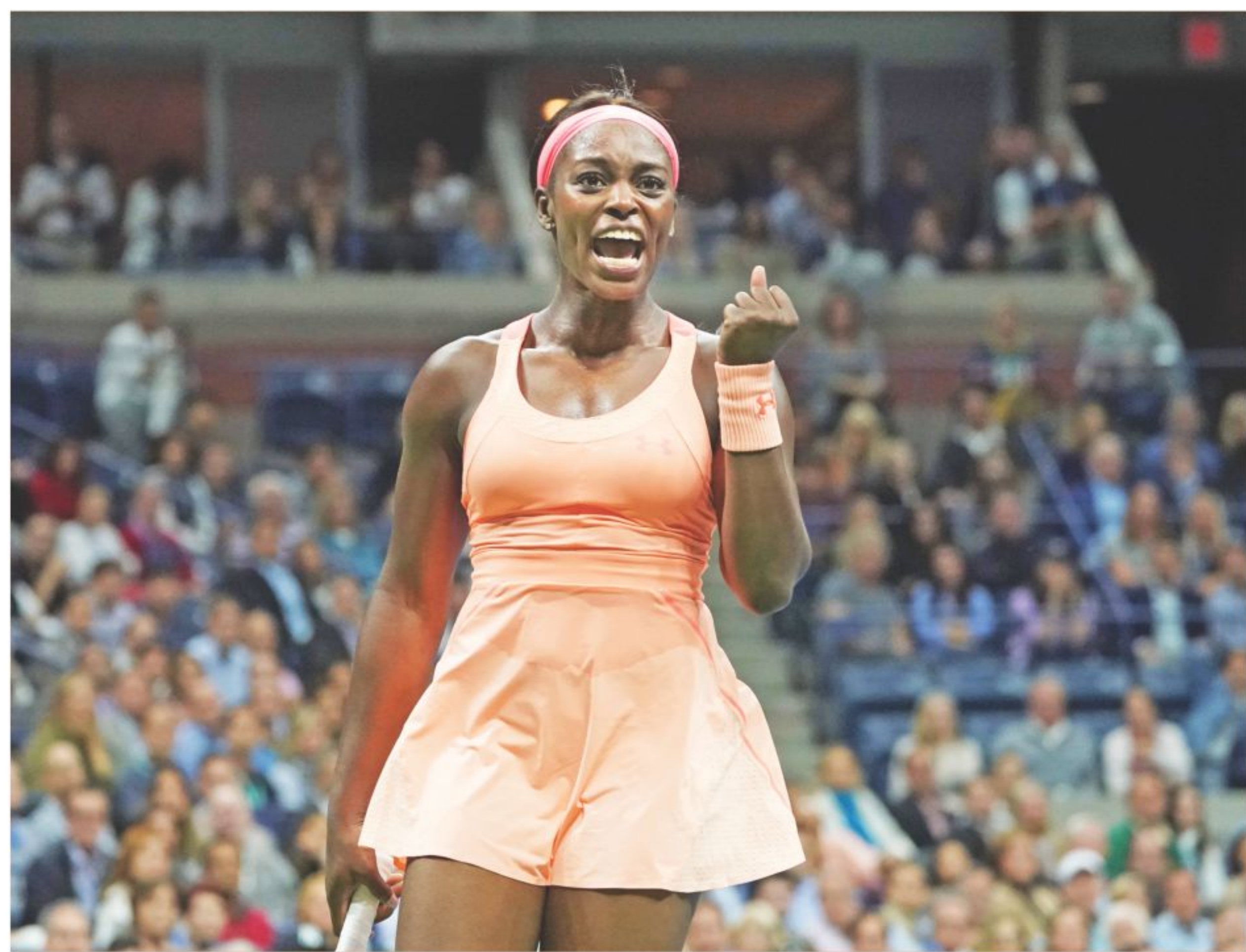
"I just worked my tail off and tried to run every ball down and here we are," Stephens said. "It required a lot of fight and a lot of grit."

Now 83rd, Stephens is the lowest-ranked Slam finalist since unranked Justine Henin at the 2010 Australian Open and the lowest at the US Open since unranked Kim Clijsters won the 2009 title.

Stephens, who beat Williams in the first round of the 2015 French Open in their only prior meeting, will jump into the world top 25 next week with the victory.

US ninth seed Williams could not overcome 51 unforced errors that doomed her bid to become the oldest women's singles finalist in US Open history at age 37.

"It was definitely well competed," Williams said. "In the end she won more points than I did and that's what it added up to."



Sloane Stephens, who had a world ranking of 957 last month, stunned veteran compatriot and two-time champion Venus Williams 6-1, 0-6, 7-5 in a thrilling US Open semifinal on Thursday.

PHOTO: AFP



The Bangladesh U-16 women's football team pose for a group photograph after arriving at the Bangsae Heritage Hotel in Chonburi, Thailand on Friday. The team will begin their AFC U-16 Women's Championship finals campaign on Monday when they take on defending champions North Korea. The other teams in Group B are Australia and Japan while Group A features South Korea, China, Thailand and Laos.

PHOTO: BFF

11-over Siddikur misses cut

SPORTS REPORTER

Things went from bad to worse for Bangladeshi golfer Siddikur Rahman at the Omega European Masters as he failed to make the cut after carding a dismal eight-over-par in the second round, taking his overall score to 11-over-par (151).

The 32-year-old began the day at the Crans-sur-Sierre Golf Club with a pair of bogeys. But things never got better in Crans Montana; in fact they took a nosedive for the worse as he carded a triple-bogey on the fifth hole.

The 13th hole yielded his only birdie of the day, but it was incredibly followed up by another triple-bogey before a further bogey on the 17th rounded off the disastrous performance.

An eye-catching affair

AFP, London



Pep Guardiola and Jurgen Klopp are proponents of crowd-pleasing attacking football which should make Saturday's Premier League clash between Manchester City and Liverpool an eye-catching affair.

However, both City's Guardiola and Klopp at Liverpool are under pressure this season to turn the attractive styles into silverware.

With both clubs on seven points and unbeaten after three matches they will hope

FIXTURES

(1400GMT kick-offs unless stated):

Saturday: Arsenal v Bournemouth, Everton v Tottenham, Leicester v Chelsea, Manchester City v Liverpool (1130), Stoke v Manchester United (1630), Brighton v West Brom, Southampton v Watford

Sunday: Burnley v Crystal Palace (1230), Swansea v Newcastle (1500)

Monday: West Ham v Huddersfield (1845)

their players haven't gone off the boil after being away on international duty.

Both trail Manchester United by two points with Jose Mourinho's side, yet to concede a goal this season, away to an unpredictable Stoke managed by former United star Mark Hughes.

For several players it will be a case of starting competitive life with their new club -- the transfer window having closed during the international break -- or for some a case of turning out after their team refused to sell them.

Philippe Coutinho could make his first appearance this season for Liverpool and interest will be focused on his mood after he failed to secure the move to Barcelona. Jurgen Klopp says that is all good with the 25-year-old Brazilian and he is not sulking, despite Liverpool rejecting several huge offers from Barcelona after he put in a transfer request. That bodes well for the German as he needs Coutinho fit and on top form if he is to have a chance of delivering their first Premier League title. He is most likely to start on the bench however.

England on top as Jimmy takes 500th

AFP, London

James Anderson became the first England bowler to take 500 Test wickets and just the sixth in history when he dismissed West Indies opener Kraigg Brathwaite on the second day of the third Test at Lord's on Friday.

Anderson, who started West Indies'

THE 500 CLUB			
PLAYER	WKTS	MATCHES	SPAN
M Muralidaran (SL)	800	133	11y 201d
SK Warne (Aus)	708	145	15y 212d
A Kumble (Ind)	619	132	12y 66d
GD McGrath (Aus)	563	124	11y 251d
CA Walsh (WI)	519	132	16y 128d
JM Anderson (Eng)	501	128	14y 110d

second innings on 499 Test wickets, reached the landmark when, with the last delivery of his second over, he bowled Brathwaite with a big inswinger.

A capacity crowd at Lord's rose to give



England's James Anderson joined an elite club when he bowled Kraigg Brathwaite for his 500th wicket on the second day of the third Test against West Indies at Lord's yesterday.

BPL to be halted after 8th round

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has decided to postpone the ongoing Bangladesh Premier League (BPL) after the upcoming eighth round to allow preparation time for the national under-18 team, who will participate in the SAFF U-18 Championship in Bhutan from September 18 to 27.

The decision came at a meeting of the Professional Football League Committee (PFLC) at the BFF House yesterday. The league has been postponed as many of the national squad players ply their trade for different clubs of the BPL.

National team head coach Andrew Ord has been preparing the side since August 7, even though the BPL players have not been released yet.

"All the participating clubs agreed to take a pause from the league considering national interest," PFLC chairman Abdus Salam Murshedy said after the meeting.

"The clubs agreed to release their players after the eighth round, which will be held from September 10 to 12.

"After completion of the eighth round, the league will remain suspended for at least three weeks, however, we are yet to decide on the date of resumption," Murshedy added.

The BFF senior vice-president also claimed that the gap would give Bangabandhu National Stadium some respite as all 42 matches of the first seven rounds were played this venue.

Ronaldo's secret weapon

AGENCIES, London

On the eve of his greatest triumph, scoring his 100th hundred in front of his adoring Yorkshire public, Geoff Boycott could not sleep.

He tried watching television. When he went to bed he found the hotel room stiflingly hot. An hour before dawn broke over Leeds, Boycott called the night porter to show him how the air conditioning worked.

When he arrived at Headingley, Boycott felt dreadful. Then, 20 minutes into his innings, another feeling washed over him. He felt clear-headed, relaxed, in command. At ten minutes to six he drove Greg Chappell to the boundary and embraced history.

Was this an example of Boycott's grit taking him through or was his body clock accidentally clicking into gear just when he needed it to?

Nick Littlehales would go for the body clock. For nearly two decades he has been advising athletes on how to sleep.

He has never believed in the traditional eight hours' continuous sleep, arguing it creates unnatural rhythms that mean the least productive time for an office worker is between one and three in the afternoon. Three o'clock on any given Saturday is usually quite important for a sportsman. His most famous client is Cristiano Ronaldo.

"Anyone who has ever worked with Ronaldo knows that if you have a discussion in the corner of the room, he will come over and ask what you are talking about," said Littlehales.

"I was invited to Real Madrid when Carlo Ancelotti became manager. I was standing on the edge of the pitch, talking to the Madrid staff, when Ronaldo ran over. He had been training all day and you would have expected him to run straight to the dressing room."

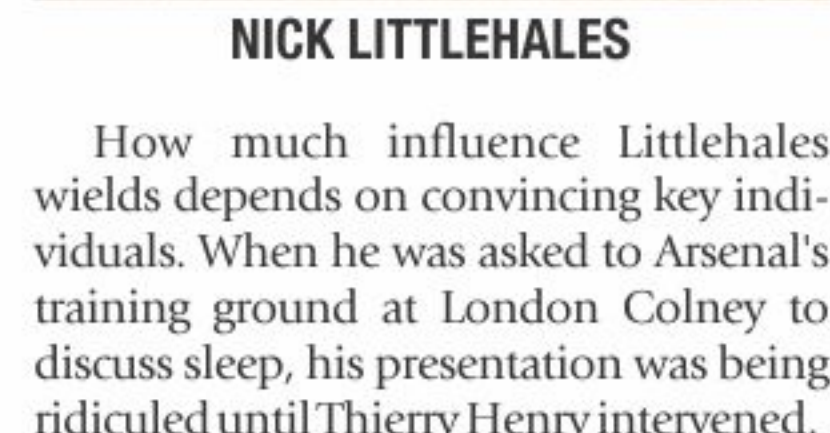
"But he was interested in what I was trying to do because as an athlete he has always invested in himself. From what I have learned from working with him, Ronaldo is not interested in fad

diets, he is not interested in copying others. The only thing he is concerned with is: does it work for him?"

Like all of his clients, Ronaldo is told to aim for five 90-minute 'sleeps'. An hour and a half before Ronaldo goes to bed, he will turn off his phone, stop watching television or any other screens.

"All you need is 10 centimetres of foam," said the man who works with athletes in the Tour de France, Giro d'Italia and Vuelta a Espana.

Sir Bradley Wiggins won the Tour de France sleeping on a couple of pieces of foam -- but sleeping correctly. During the London Olympics, Sir Chris Hoy was given a five-star hotel room. The bed was unused. Hoy slept on the floor on a sleep kit, tailored to his body shape.



NICK LITTLEHALES

How much influence Littlehales wields depends on convincing key individuals. When he was asked to Arsenal's training ground at London Colney to discuss sleep, his presentation was being ridiculed until Thierry Henry intervened.

One of the first people he wrote to, in the late 1990s, was legendary manager Sir Alex Ferguson after hearing that Gary Pallister had been having problems with his back. And he credits the Manchester United boss for hearing him out when most others would not have and continued to work with the Scotsman, getting a reputation for himself in the process.

"I was lucky that one of the first people I wrote to about sleep was Alex Ferguson. With another manager, my letter would have gone straight in the bin."

QUICK SINGLES

The following are a few samples of stories that did not make the print edition. However, if they pique your interest, you can always read them online on The Daily Star website by simply scanning the QR codes listed below:

Allegri's Juve warm-up for Barca against Chievo

Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri will get a final chance to test his troops before next week's Champions League opener at Barcelona in their Serie A tie at home against Chievo.

Ox excited to link up with Klopp

Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain is itching to start work with Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp and could make his debut in their Premier League headline clash with Manchester City.

Jose disappointed over Pereira loan move

Jose Mourinho has questioned young midfielder Andreas Pereira's decision to leave Old Trafford on loan to Valencia rather than stay and fight for a place in Manchester United's first-team squad.

Pochettino threatens to 'headbutt' Aurier if he steps out of line

Tottenham Hotspur manager Mauricio Pochettino has threatened to "head-butt" new signing Serge Aurier if he steps out of line in a stark warning over his expected behaviour at the club.