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BATTLING BACK for another crack at the national championship, two former No. 1 teams, Alabama and Notre Dame, square off. Bear Bryant has 304 victories, but not one has come against the Irish. Can he win this time? Douglas S. Looney will find out.

A CRADLE OF CHAMPIONS is the tiny Colombian village of Palenque. It has produced three world boxing champs, and not unaccountably, for in its 400-year struggle against oppression, self-defense has been essential. Clive Gammon reports.

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