

NC Coastline

By JIM TYLER

A small clam from China that has caused a lot of trouble and cost millions of dollars to control in other areas of the United States has evidently made its recent entry into North Carolina waters.

The trouble-maker is not on the Tarheel coast; however, it has been reported in the western part of the state.

Rowland Shelley, invertebrate zoologist of the State Museum of Natural History, said he has received qualified reports that the rapid-reproducing, freshwater Chinese clam, *Corbicula manilensis*, is now in the Catawba River system (and lakes such as Lake Norman). He said the clam probably is in other areas that have not been sampled lately. Reports he has received indicates *Corbicula* is extending its North Carolina range.

The clam multiplies so fast and abundantly, according to reports, that it clogs pipes and is capable of closing down industries using freshwater. In Tennessee, for example, it has temporarily closed down practically every Tennessee Valley Authority plant on the rivers, according to a recent article in the VIRGINIAN PILOT. In California, according to another report, the clams were found in concentrations as much as three feet deep in a San Joaquin Valley canal, where it took workers with bulldozers more than a month to remove 50,000 cubic yards of accumulated clams.

The Chinese clams were first discovered in the United States (in California) in 1938, according to the VIRGINIAN article. Since then it has become a nuisance in the Ohio-Tennessee area and Florida. It was discovered in Virginia in 1971. And, recently, it was discovered growing in the Delaware River at several points between Philadelphia and Trenton.

Evans Finds Football Second

Norm Evans is a football player. And he's a pretty good football player. In fact, he is an All-Pro offensive lineman of the reigning World Champion Miami Dolphins.

But football holds a secondary position in the life of Norm Evans. He dodges the off-season glory of his professional accomplishments in favor of his primary work. His primary work is spreading the gospel of Christianity.

Evans has accepted an invitation to be the principal speaker at the 49th annual "Singing on the Mountain," which will be observed on Grandfather Mountain's MacRae Meadows on Sunday, June 24.

In addition to Evans' address at 1 p.m., the day-long preaching and gospel-singing event will highlight performances by numerous individuals and groups whose talents are also known nationwide.

Some 25,000 persons are expected to gather for this year's "Singing on the Mountain," which is a

unique spiritual experience set amid an atmosphere of informality. There is no admission charge to the event.

"On God's Squad" is the title of Norm Evans' recently-published book of his life's story. A native of Texas, Evans is deeply involved in his work on behalf of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Campus Crusade for Christ.

A graduate of Texas Christian University, Evans currently serves as a deacon in the Sheridan Hills Baptist Church in Hollywood, Fla. He is a member of the board of directors of Sheridan House, a home for delinquent boys; and is a director of an alcoholic rehabilitation center.

Upon leaving TCU, his collegiate coach attempted to persuade him not to enter the professional football world "because you don't have the vicious streak it takes to succeed" in the pro league.

Over the seven years since Norm Evans heard that statement, he has reached the pinnacle in pro football... without acquiring a vicious streak.

Biking Is An Adventure

We came over the crest of the high hill and started down the other side. It had not been as bad as we thought. Easy, in fact. We weren't even breathing hard.

Now we streaked down the long grade, bent low over the down-turned handle bars. The spokes scattered sparks of bright reflections, then became a solid sheet of

spinning silver. Faster and faster we went. At perhaps 30 miles per hour, the kids in the car in the next lane began to make funny-faces at us.

Then they were gone. We had passed them.

"How did you get here so quickly?" my wife asked me. Three of us had left to travel across Raleigh to a

friend's house. We were riding 10-speed bikes. My wife followed in a car a scant few minutes after we pedaled out of the driveway. We had beaten her a full five minutes.

But quickness is not what I like best about bike riding, though that is certainly one advantage that surprises most people who do not ride bikes.

I ride a bike not because it is fast, cheap urban transportation, but because it is also slow and joyous.

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THE FISHIN' IS JUST FINE — The Perquimans River not only adds charm to Hertford, but it is also very useful as is shown here. Quite a nice catch. (Staff Photo by Kathy Marren)

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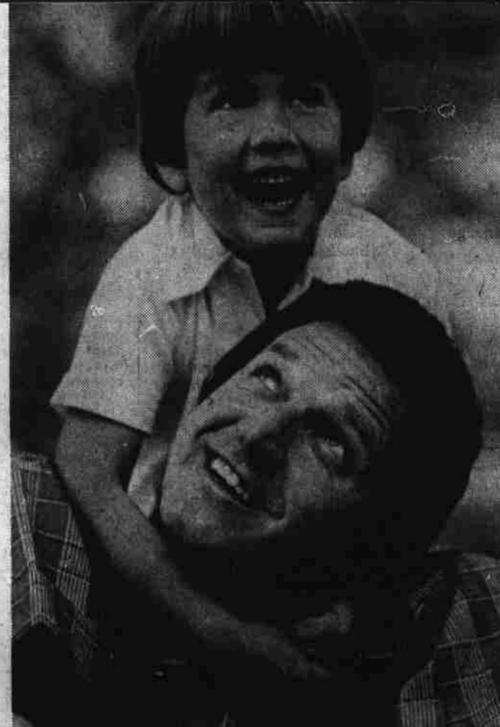
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