Good things are in store tonight as the fabulous Association lift Homecoming festivities off to a roaring start. Tonight is the night. Don't miss them.

Happiness Is

Homecoming '70 Revue

The Mercer Student Union has planned four days of Homecoming Activities. Wednesday night begins the festivities with the Association in Concert. Friday night will bring another concert with the Happenings in Willingham Chapel. A Basketball game against Columbus College followed by a dance with the Bushman Saturday night will bring the 1970 Homecoming to a close.

What kind of an association is *The Association*? Are they musicians, or just musicians that are weird?

Take Russ Giguere for instance ... who spends his spare hours walking alone around the city. His favorite all-time job was running a merry-go-round because "People didn't bug me and I could think."

And then there's Ted Bluechel who reminds himself not to be vain by placing a mirror so high above his apartment floor he can't see himself.

Or what about Brian Cole who's held 33 jobs in six years and is quite a philosopher on the subject of unemployment ... among other things.

Terry Kirkman is a caution ... has enough credits for two degrees yet never graduated from college. But he has managed to learn how to play 23 instruments.

Larry Ramos studied Political Science and was to become a diplomat in the foreign service, but decided that a good entertainer could also be a diplomat.

And finally there is happy-go-lucky Jim Yester, who became a Certified Public Accountant like his mother, until he began "freaking out in the music field" and hasn't added a column since.

The Association is a singing group that covers the widest range of the popular idiom. They have been called the first "show-rock" group around today ... which means they can play bluer blues than the Rolling Stones, harder hard-rock than the Raiders, and put more folk into folk music than the Kingston Trio. And they still come out with their own unique sound.

The Association's first singing engagement was a stint at the Pasadena Ice House. After that they accepted every job that came their way ... theatre, night clubs and school hops. As they developed so did the number of fans. Their first big hit came when they recorded "Along Came Mary," followed by "Cherish," both of which sold over a million copies only to be followed by two more million sellers, "Windy" and "Never My Love". Two Association albums have also been certified for gold records, "And Then ... Along Comes The Association" and "Insight Out".

The claw of the Seapuss gets us all in the end. So far it hasn't gotten The Happenings, and the kicky vocal quartet that satirizes pop music while it makes love to it has happily sailed through fads, fevers and foolishness with nary a hair of their mod heads disturbed.

Dave Libert, Bernie La Porta, Mike La Neve (newest member of the group), Bob Miranda and Tom Giuliano look good under a spotlight. They bounce on stage, wave hello, and move smoothly into their bag of musical card tricks.

Crashing into a blues barrelhouse version of "Bye Bye Blackbird," Miranda bites the highnotes, Giuliano whomps a tambourine, Libert stabs out blues riffs on the organ, La Neve's drums explode like body blows and La Porta's guitar wails and howls.

The party continues with impressions of rock stars like Bob Dylan, The Beach Boys, The Rolling Stones and The Temptations.

Here is how SWANK Magazine sees them:

"A remarkable rock vocal group with one of the most sophisticated acts in show business, The Happenings combine an advanced sense of satire with Borcht-belt audience savvy. No other contemporary pop quintet would have the all to open their stage act with 'It's A Grand Night For Singing' and close with 'Exodus', dropping bombs in between with take-offs on holy rock cows."

But with all the tough professionalism and their caustic sense of humor, The Happenings are one of the very few pop groups who are actively trying to change what they think is wrong with the life around them. They have become sponsors of an American Indian boy under the Save The Children Foundation, helping to provide for the boy's education and medical needs.

And that — baby — is what's happening.

The fantastic Happenings keep the Homecoming fire o'burning as they lighten the Chapel up with their up-date sounds, Friday. It's another fabulous treat. Don't you dare miss them!

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