

Smoke Signals Radio Archive Episode 1991-09-07  
Episode Air Date: 1991-09-07

*John Turner, standing in for Dan Smoke, and Mike Beachey interview the band Tribe of Five on their new album Soar Like an Eagle, environmental destruction, and making it in the music industry. Later, Mary Lou Smoke makes community announcements.*

Host(s): John Turner, Mike Beachey  
Guest(s): Tribe of Five: Mark Beachey, Jerry Chevalier, Rick Waddell, Greg McKay, Hassam Kaboush

**Segment 1 [7:41:00 – 8:08:00]**

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Segment 1  
Episode Air Date: 1991-09-07

*John Turner, standing in for Dan Smoke, and Mike Beachey introduce themselves and introduce Mark Beachey's band Tribe of Five and play one of their songs.*

Host(s): John Turner, Mike Beachey  
Guest(s): Tribe of Five: Mark Beachey, Jerry Chevalier, Rick Waddell, Greg McKay, Hassam Kaboush

**JOHN TURNER:** Good afternoon. Welcome to Smoke Signals, radio Western's Native Affairs program. I'm John Turner, sitting in for Dan Smoke.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** And I'm Mike Beachey and welcome to the program. Today, we're going to have an interesting program. We have a special guest, back again, with his other members of his band. That is **Mark Beachey**, and we're going to start off with a tune of their new band called **Tribe of Five**.

[SONG] Band: Tribe of Five // Song Title: Unknown // Album: Soar like the Eagle – 8:09-12:23

**Segment 2 [12:24:00 - 18:13:00]**

Smoke Signals Radio Archive Episode 1991-09-07  
Segment 2  
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*Mike Beachey interviews Mark Beachey and the other members of Tribe of Five about their new album Soar Like an Eagle and the topic of environmental destruction, before introducing and playing their single, Environmental Suicide.*

Host(s): Mike Beachey  
Guest(s): Tribe of Five: Mark Beachey, Jerry Chevalier, Rick Waddell, Greg McKay, Hassam Kaboush

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Okay, that was music from Tribe of Five and with me in the studio is Mark Beachey and members of his band. Mark, welcome back to the show again, and I wonder if you would like to introduce your band members there.

**MARK BEACHEY:** Sure, thanks very much, Mike. First of all, I guess in the studio with us we have Jerry Chevalier [inaudible].

**JERRY CHEVALIER:** Hi, how are you?

**MARK BEACHEY:** And also, we have Rick Waddell.

**RICK WADDELL:** Hello.

**MARK BEACHEY:** And Greg McKay.

**GREG MCKAY:** Hi.

**MARK BEACHEY:** And Hassam Kaboush, and they're all from **Sarnia, Ontario**, Mike.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Yeah, okay. So, Mark, I understand you just got this album out of here, out of the studio now and how long have you been working on this new stuff of yours?

**MARK BEACHEY:** Well, we've been working on it for some time now, for a few months there and it's coming together pretty well actually. We were in the studio all last week, recording this. And we're very pleased with all the results that came back from it and we're all happy as a band.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** That was the first song of the releasing of the new band. Here on CHRW, this would be like the sneak preview of the... I'll let Mark introduce the title of the soundtrack and everything.

**MARK BEACHEY:** Okay, thanks Mike. It's called **Soar Like the Eagle**. And it's a collection of eight songs that I've written, and we've got a bunch of talented guys here with me in the studio to help me out with it.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Alright, so how long did it take you to sort of recruit or get these guys together here?

**MARK BEACHEY:** Well, it's kind of a long story but...

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Well, you've got the airtime here.

**MARK BEACHEY:** [laughs] Well... I guess it all happened...

**JC:** I think we all sort of just fell together. [all laugh]

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Okay, so anyways, so what are you looking forward to now coming up in the future now, now you have what would be like your demo tape produced. How do you see yourselves going now?

**MARK BEACHEY:** Well, in the future, I guess we're looking at a video production of the one song there, **Environmental Suicide**, which all of us have really put a lot of work, hard work and effort into the releasing of that song. And we've maintained our own styles of playing, so all the ideas everybody contributing.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** That's an interesting topic of the environment. What was the inspiration there of writing a tune like this?

**MARK BEACHEY:** Well, actually, it was Rick Waddell, maybe Rick could say a few words about that. We decided, basically, the environment has a lot of issues. With the environment, what's going on out there, and basically our band wanted a direction, wanted to do something more positive, and when we did the actual writing of... when we sat down and did it, we wanted a more positive outlook on things and a lot of issues go along with the environment to make people's awareness out there a little greater, a little bit more conscious of it.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Right on.

**RW:** Basically, living in the Sarnia area, living, you know, every day you see something like different pollutants put in the air.

**JC:** Sarnia's an oil refinery town, and we really have a lot a lot of problems with not just inconveniences of smell and what not. You really see the evidence when you live in a city like that.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Ah, I see, yeah. That's a really heavy industrial town with the **oil refineries** there, and we've had a couple of people on our program talking about the environment and stuff like that around there, and they're really concerned, especially down from the **Walpole Island** area and right down the whole **Saint Clair River**, and it's really starting, especially the fish in the water and stuff like that really get contaminated and stuff. This is really, kind of, unique of you guys, turning around and putting it into music. Music is a very, very influential way of... now in today's age eh, that's the age we're in. Would you like to comment on that, Mark?

**MARK BEACHEY:** Oh, myself, eh? I, well, we've organized our band in like the direction where we're going. Everybody's really happy with that, and I think in our future work, our music will definitely reflect that attitude and just the organization of the band...

**JC:** We share a common goal.

**MARK BEACHEY:** Yeah.

**GM:** It's a public awareness, basically, I guess.

**JC:** And it is kind of funny that you mention Walpole Island because we did our master demo at Knewl studios or **New Felt Studios**, sorry if your listening Rick. It's about two miles from the bridge to Walpole, and you can actually see the effects of chemical contaminants of that area.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Well, let's take a little break here and listen to your tune here called **Environmental Suicide**.

[SONG] Band: Tribe of Five // Song Title: Environmental Suicide // Album: Soar like the Eagle – 18:14-23:30

**Segment 3 [23:30:00 - 29:33:00]**

Smoke Signals Radio Archive Episode 1991-09-07

Segment 3

Episode Air Date: 1991-09-07

*Mike Beachey and John Turner interview Tribe of Five about the process of writing Environmental Suicide, their future career, and Indigenous issues.*

Host(s): Mike Beachey, John Turner

Guest(s): Tribe of Five: Mark Beachey, Jerry Chevalier, Rick Waddell, Greg McKay, Hassam Kaboush

**MIKE BEACHEY:** All right, that was Environmental Suicide. That was a very interesting, powerful song, Mark. That was beautiful. I was wondering if you could explain just a little bit about the words that you spoke in the middle of the song there?

**MARK BEACHEY:** Oh, the commentary. Yeah, the commentary was a special one, taking from... actually, I was really inspired one day by listening to a tape of **Milton** and I took some words from him. And they're very influential to me, and it was exactly as the tune was coming about and what to put there and that song it seemed to kind of fall into place with it. Really kind of ironic how it came around.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Oh, yeah. That would be... that's a number one tune to get right into the video production of that, using some, even some, film work from around the Sarnia area especially from the water and stuff. Really be quite appropriate with it, eh?

**MARK BEACHEY:** Yeah. We're looking at that right now. That's our, I guess, next goal is to achieve that video, cause the **Sarnia reserve** and Walpole Island are very situated and affected drastically by what has happened with the environment and a lot of that is caused by those big industries located along the river.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Also, how do you proceed to do this with... How do you see yourselves actually fitting in with the bands and stuff like that?

**MARK BEACHEY:** Well, with the band, with the way we've organized it, even our name, the Tribe of Five, we went into a lot of thought about that and actually we just recently decided that that should be the name for the band because of the multicultural factor of the members of the band, showing to people that it doesn't really matter what cultures we all come from but we can all have respect for each other's cultures and ways of life but realizing we can all work together.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Excellent Mark. Good stuff. Just picking things back up and back into you guys are breaking into the music industry now. How do you see yourselves... is it more a challenge being a Native band or coming with a band with a message? How do you foresee it to take off?

**MARK BEACHEY:** I don't think... I don't foresee it as a challenge or anything. I feel that each of us, even myself, all of us we have a gift for music and it's just using that and using it in positive or negative ways or however we want. And so, I think our band has got a lot of good things to say out there and our music reflects that of our opinions.

**[UNKNOWN]:** The music will explain itself.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Alright. That's sounds good. Maybe John? Would you like to have a few words here with the band?

**JOHN TURNER:** Well, I was wondering do you think it's any more difficult for a Native group or a group that is concerned with **Native issues** than it is for any ordinary you know high school band or high school group or college or university or whatever group to get going? Or perhaps it's an advantage now a days because Native issues are so popular?

**RICK WADDELL:** Well, that's the thing. This is the key issues of today really. What's going on in Canada with the Native people, the government. In some ways I think it makes it easier because I think more people are more open to listen because it is what is going on right now in the time.

**JERRY CHEVALIER:** And to answer your question more also. I don't think that because we have Native members or any other nationality as members it makes any difference, and you can't see who is what when the music is being played. I mean you don't know what I am right now and to...

**JT:** I know.

**JC:** Really? [All laugh] so I don't think that makes any difference.

**[UNKNOWN]:** Jury's still out on that one.

**JC:** But we do have something that everyone is interested in and that's the environment and as you're saying about high school students. We hope that they'll listen to us and believe what we're saying and maybe jump on and do their own thing. If we can help anyone... we don't have a number where we can be contacted but we should have one and we likely will have one soon, but we hope that everyone will jump on this and really start to practice what they preach.

**JT:** Yeah. So, do you see the mainstream society and Native society and so on as coming together? As, you know, they're sort of merging they're becoming united with common interest, common goals, common ambitions, and so on?

**JC:** Don't they have to?

**JT:** Yeah, sure I agree with you.

**JC:** Yeah, I really think they do have to.

**JT:** I think that's a really positive sign of the times.

**JC:** We have one world, eh?

**JT:** That's right.

**JC:** I really... I think we have to do that.

**JT:** Great, thank you.

**Mark Beachey:** And to even add to a little more about that. I figure either we're all going to have to learn to live together or we're all going to die together.

**[UNKNOWN]:** I don't want him to die!

**[ALL LAUGH]**

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Okay. I think we're going to pump onto another music of Tribe of Five here. Keep it going. John, take it away.

[SONG] Band: Tribe of Five // Song Title: Rock and Roll Dream // Album: Soar like the Eagle – 29:34-32:55

**Segment 4 [32:56:00 - 39:15:00]**

Smoke Signals Radio Archive Episode 1991-09-07

Segment 4

Episode Air Date: 1991-09-07

*Mike Beachey and John Turner interview Tribe of Five about creating and selling their first tape and strategies for breaking into the Canadian and American markets.*

Host(s): Mike Beachey, John Turner

Guest(s): Tribe of Five: Mark Beachey, Jerry Chevalier, Rick Waddell, Greg McKay, Hassam Kaboush

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Alright, that was a song called **Rock and Roll Dream** by Tribe of Five and with me here in the studio is the band. And I'd like to carry on here with, maybe Rick, would like to talk about this one here about Rock and Roll Dream that was a very interesting tune. How do you guys feel now about having your first tape out now, eh? I guess everybody, every musician's dream is to come up with that and get produced and stuff like that, eh?

**RICK WADDELL:** Oh, it's great. I've been trying to get a solid band together for about six years now, and I think finally I've found the guys. It's a good feeling and I think that's why it's so easy right now and things are happening so fast because it's a good positive feeling of creating music together.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** How about you Greg? How do you feel about that?

**GREG MCKAY:** Well, we really have a great communication amongst ourselves which really helps out a lot. When we come up with like our tunes, we just sort of melt together, everything just clicks together.

**RW:** It's like a magic. When its right you know it's right, it just happens.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Yeah, these songs are really good. This is very good production you have, and we're very proud here at the Native People's Program, the Smoke Signals on behalf of CHRW to intro your tape for the first-time on-air production here. John, would you like to have a question or comment on musicians upcoming and stuff like that?

**JOHN TURNER:** Well, I don't know. I love your music. I think it's fantastic and I wish you all the very best of success with it. What are you going to do with it if any of our listeners, or us, wanted to get a copy of it where could we go or what could we do? I don't understand the marketing of this sort of thing. How do you get a tape or a record or a CD out to the public?

**RW:** To start off with, when we start playing live, I think most of the tapes will be sold at our live shows.

**JT:** Live performances right. I know an awful lot of Native music is hard to get in the stores. I know that you're not exclusively Native. You see yourselves as just human, just people, but I know around here we've tried to get tapes of Native music and it's extremely difficult unless you buy or get it at a **Powwow** or something, but I tried a week or two ago at a Powwow and I had a lot of difficulty. Why isn't there more of it in the regular record stores?

**RW:** I think it's got a lot to do with big record companies that control the market.

**JT:** Yeah, sticking to the mainstream.

**RW:** It's very hard even to get radio play without being signed to a major record label and us doing this as almost a private enterprise type of thing. I think it's going to take a lot of foot work on our own really to push this out.

**JT:** That's seems to be the way in Canada with almost everything, like Canadian filmmakers have trouble getting anything done, almost anything Canadian. It's especially pertinent with free trade because Americans want culture, Canadian culture, to be on the table. The Americans already own about ninety percent of all our cultural distribution services. They own a lot of our publishing, so really, it's just a universal problem for Canadians, it's not just a problem for the Native community. Is that right?

**RW:** Oh, definitely. I've heard many Canadian artists talk about this problem.

**JC:** Yeah, our market is definitely flooded by American musicians and filmmakers and artists of all sorts and they're very good. There's some great works that come out of the States, but I think there's some comparable or even better work that comes out of Canada. Bryan Adams went real big, real fast.

**JT:** Yeah, but he did by mostly going to the States.

**JC:** Yeah, maybe that's what we're going to have to do.

**[UNKNOWN]:** We'll invade! **[ALL LAUGH]**

**JC:** I also think somewhere on the back burner there's a college network that we'd really like to get into. There's a college station that we get from the States that we listen to in our hometown sometimes and hopefully, we haven't approached them yet, but hopefully they'll play some of our stuff. They play some really controversial stuff. So, they have a lot to say about it, maybe it will start there.

**JT:** I hope you leave a copy of your tape with us so that we can play it from time to time in the future.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Well, John, we'll definitely do that for the band. We'll use their music on our show, and I'm pretty sure the CHRW people will be more interested in playing an on-air production too with them. Okay, we haven't heard from Hassam yet, the drummer, the silent drummer. Would you like to say a few words of actually having the first cassette out now.

**HASSAM KABOUSH:** Yes, it's pretty intense. It's all happening all at once and get ready go at it see what with happens. If it doesn't go anywhere, oh well. We did it, it was fun. Hopefully we change people's minds about things and maybe they'll say, 'hey that band really said something,' and I'm proud of that. I'm just glad to be in this band and behind it.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Alright. Alright. Well, we're just going to take another break here. Take another tune of Tribe of Five.

**HK:** Rock and Roll.

[SONG] Band: Tribe of Five // Song Title: Unknown // Album: Soar like the Eagle – 39:16-44:42

### **Community Announcement 1 [44:43:00 - 47:24:00]**

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Community Announcement 1  
Episode Air Date: 1991-09-07

*Mary Lou Smoke makes community announcement about the Sacred Run Canada, CASNP, the Native Justice Conference, and CPRI professional education workshop.*

Host(s): John Turner, Mary Lou Smoke

**JOHN TURNER:** That was a song from the Tribe of Five's last album, or most recent album, and now here's Mary Lou Smoke with some community announcements.

**MARY LOU SMOKE:** Thanks, John. On August 6<sup>th</sup>, the **Sacred Run Canada** 1991, a special run from **Vancouver, British Columbia** to **Kahnawake, Quebec**, covering six thousand one hundred kilometres has begun. Native American, Japanese, European, and Canadian runners have joined together to carry the message of the sacredness of all things and prayers for the healing of **Mother Earth**. In [inaudible] that Sacred Run has covered more than thirty-five thousand two hundred kilometers and includes runs cross the United States, Japan, and Europe. On this weekend the runners will be around **Thunder Bay**, and they should be around **Wiikwemkoong** around September 15<sup>th</sup> and coming down to **Six Nations** about the 17<sup>th</sup> of September. If you would like to help out in any way, you can contact Melody Johnnie at [redacted]. The fax number is [redacted].

**MLS:** The London chapter of **CASNP** which stands for Canadian Alliance and Solidarity with Native Peoples will be having a meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 1991, at **N'Amerind**. If you would like to attend, please contact N'Amerind at [redacted] or John Turner at [redacted]. There will be a **community healing** on October 7<sup>th</sup> at N'Amerind please contact N'Amerind at [redacted] for any information.

**MLS:** There's a **Native Justice Conference**, which is a conference addressing current Native issues affecting the future of all Canadian people. This will be held on Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup>,

1991, at **Faculty of Law** at the **University of Western Ontario**. Registration is at 8:30 am and the Faculty of Law is in the front lobby.

**MLS:** A CPR professional education will be holding a workshop on 'Information for Assessment and Treatment: Native Ethics Rules and Behaviours.' Mental health professionals sometimes have difficult assessing Native children and adolescences who are often passive and not forthcoming. This behaviour which actually reflects the influence of Native culture is often misinterpreted by clinicians as evidence of psychopathology. Failure to recognize and understand cultural influences can lead to errors in diagnosis and treatment. Claircy Brandt will be holding the workshop. For further information, you can contact **CPRI** at [redacted] in London, and that's all I have for today, John.

**Segment 5 [47:25:00 - 49:46:00]**

Smoke Signals Radio Archive Episode 1991-09-07  
Segment 5  
Episode Air Date: 1991-09-07

*Mike Beachey and John Turner say goodbye to Tribe of Five, call out where to contact them, and play one last song.*

Host(s): John Turner, Mike Beachey

Guest(s): Tribe of Five: Mark Beachey, Jerry Chevalier, Rick Waddell, Greg McKay, Hassam Kaboush

**JOHN TURNER:** Okay, thanks Mary Lou. Well, I guess that's just about it for today. I would like to thank the Tribe of Five for coming in. We really appreciate it. I hope they will come back again in the future. Do you guys have any plans in the near future for doing anything around here live?

**RICK WADDELL:** Not so far, but I imagine we will.

**[UNKNOWN]:** Just listen for us.

**JERRY CHEVALIER:** Yeah, invite us. We're open.

**JT:** Well, we just might do that because CASNP was putting on a social some time in November and I think the radio station here at Western is planning to do some kind of social event in the not do distant future, so maybe we can talk about that after the show.

**RW:** Sure.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Excuse me there. Alright, we're going to leave a contact number for information about the Tribe of Five. You can reach them at **New Moon Productions** at area code [redacted] or you can deal direct in Sarnia at [redacted], phone number there would be [redacted]. I'd like to thank the band personally for coming out here today.

**[ALL OVERLAPPING]:** Thanks. Thank you. Thanks very much. We had a real fun time.

**MIKE BEACHEY:** Alright. Alright. So, hope to hear from you again and keep in touch. Remember at Smoke Signals we have an open-door policy. If you guys have any more new

information and you guys want to come out or tell us more about your video productions or stuff like that feel free. Contact us and we'll line it up and come on the show again.

**[OVERLAPPING]:** Okay. Thanks.

**JC:** And thanks for your work at Smoke Signals.

**JT:** Well, that was terrific. I think we will probably go out right now with another song from the Tribe of Five. We wish to invite our listeners to come back again next week on Saturday from twelve noon until one o'clock in the afternoon on Radio Western 94.7 FM. So, here is one final number from the Tribe of Five.

[SONG] Band: Tribe of Five // Song Title: Unknown // Album: Soar like the Eagle – 49:48-53:58

[SONG] Band: Tribe of Five // Song Title: Unknown // Album: Soar like the Eagle – 53:59-58:33