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## Indian Bureau Bent Rules

### Changes Aided Schaghticokes

By RICK GREEN  
COURANT STAFF WRITER

The federal government granted recognition to the Schaghticoke Tribal Nation knowing that the tribe did not meet existing Bureau of Indian Affairs rules, agency documents show.

An internal bureau briefing paper supplied to The Courant on Thursday shows that the agency knew that the tribe lacked the required evidence of "political influence" for 64 years in the 19th and 20th centuries. It also noted that the tribe's membership list included names of people who had not joined the tribe.

But the five-page memo, written by staff members in the bureau's Office of Federal Acknowledgment, provided the agency's director with a blueprint for how to recognize the tribe anyway — even though it had failed to meet these two essential criteria. Opponents have charged that the Schaghticokes, who spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on lobbyists, won recognition through political influence, not the historical facts, a charge denied by the tribe.

On Jan. 29, the bureau reversed a preliminary decision and recognized the 273-member tribe, which is based in Kent and has had state recognition for hundreds of years. Federally recognized tribes are eligible to operate casino-style gambling in Connecticut.

"It's almost like a road map for committing robbery — these are the regulations you have to dis-

PLEASE SEE INDIAN, PAGE A7

## Rowland Lawyers On The Attack

By JON LENDER,  
CHRISTOPHER KEATING  
And EDMUND H. MAHONY  
COURANT STAFF WRITERS

Gov. John G. Rowland's lawyers launched pre-emptive actions on several fronts Thursday — asking the House impeachment committee's most outspoken member to drop out of the inquiry and seeking State Ethics Commission rulings on three key issues involving allegations against the governor and his new legal defense fund.

The request for the ethics commission rulings appears to be laying the groundwork for a lawsuit to reverse recent legal opinions by Alan S. Plofsky, the commission's executive director, that have consistently gone against the governor.

The commission is scheduled to meet today to decide whether to ratify two of those Plofsky opinions — one dealing with the legal defense fund and the other examining the question of whether it was illegal for James K. Robertson Jr., who was later appointed a judge by Rowland, to provide the governor with \$125,000 worth of free legal representation.

PLEASE SEE ROWLAND, PAGE A6



## CULPRIT: Spain Grapples With Dual Theories

Combined Wire Services

MADRID, Spain — Spanish authorities are wrestling with competing theories over who was responsible for synchronized train station bombings Thursday morning that killed nearly 200 people and wounded about 1,400 others.

In the worst terrorist attack in Spanish history, 10 bombs hidden in backpacks exploded over a 15-minute span, blowing apart four commuter trains in or near the nation's capital.

Swift to blame ETA, a Basque group fighting to secede from Spain, top officials by the end of the day were forced to acknowledge that they were pursuing a more complex investigation.

If ETA separatists were involved, the size and savagery of the attacks suggest a significant shift in tactics. While considered less likely, the bombings also could be the work of an entirely new player in Spain: Al-Qaida or other Islamic terrorists.

U.S. officials in Washington, while cautioning that it was too early to tell, cited circumstantial evidence that Islamic groups might be involved.

"This was a very well-planned and highly synchronized attack that targeted innocent civilians," said one U.S. counterterrorism official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of national security restrictions.

"There are a lot of indicators here that indicate it could be a radical Islamist group. ... But we are keeping our options

PLEASE SEE ETA, PAGE A3

### BOMBS KILL 192, INJURE 1,400 IN SPAIN

# ETA OR AL-QAIDA?



RESCUE WORKERS remove victims at Atocha train station after a blast there Thursday. Two other railway stations in Madrid were rocked by explosions.

- ▶ **MINUTE-BY-MINUTE:** Map shows sequence of explosions across Madrid. **Page A3**
- ▶ **MARKET SHUDDERS:** Report of possible al-Qaida role batters stocks. **Page E1**
- ▶ **MORE NEWS ONLINE:** For the latest developments, go to [www.ctnow.com](http://www.ctnow.com)

## AFTERMATH: Tears Fall In A City Known For Optimism, Gaiety

Combined Wire Services

MADRID, Spain — Fernando Gonzalez was apologetic Thursday, partly for his struggle to speak English but mostly for his tears, which he could not stop.

"I'm sorry, I'm sorry," said the 37-year-old truck driver, who lives in the capital's Atocha neighborhood, less than a mile from the train station of the same name — the station that took the brunt of 10 bombs that exploded Thursday.

"I'm sorry," he said again, "but today all of Spain cries."

Thursday was a day of tears in a city known for its bright gaiety, a day of trepidation in a city known for its optimism. Everywhere — in the city's cafes and restaurants, where red-eyed men and women sat silently or talked in low voices, on the roads eerily missing the usual cacophony of car horns, in the neighborhood of Atocha, where people walking dogs stood and gazed at the station hit so hard — there was an unmistakable deflation of people usually pumped so full of pride in their country.

"This is not like Spain," Gonzalez said standing next to a bouquet of flowers left at the station. "What happened is more like Baghdad or, I'm sorry to say, like what happened to New York."

That comparison — to continuing attacks by militants in Baghdad and the events of Sept. 11, 2001 — was made over and over again by people here. Spain has had its battles with home-grown militants, but nothing that could compare with Thursday's carnage.

PLEASE SEE ONE, PAGE A3



FIREFIGHTERS lay down a body pulled from the wreckage of a passenger train at Atocha station. Thursday's bombings, Spain's worst terrorist attack ever, killed at least 192 people and injured 1,400. Government officials initially blamed Basque separatists, although a shadowy group claimed responsibility in the name of al-Qaida.

## INSIDE Judd Returns From Mideast

Facing plagiarism charges, CCSU President Richard Judd says he'll make a statement after meeting with faculty. **Connecticut, Page B1**

## Early Birds Get Burned

Many federal income tax payers who filed early will have to file amended returns because they got faulty data. **Business, Page E1**

## Gay-Marriage Ban Clears Hurdle But Final Support Not Assured For Massachusetts' Compromise Plan

By JENNIFER PETER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON — A constitutional amendment that would eliminate the nation's first legally sanctioned gay marriages but legalize civil unions survived three votes Thursday and stood one vote away from victory for this legislative session.

The legislature recessed just before

midnight Thursday and planned to return March 29 to resume deliberations on the amendment. If it survives a final vote and

**S.F. GAY MARRIAGES HALTED, PAGE A4**  
**PROVINCETOWN'S POT OF GOLD, PAGE D1**

legislative maneuvering by opponents, the measure would then be put on hold until the 2005-06 session, when a newly elected legislature will be required to approve an

identical measure before sending it to the voters in November 2006.

Even if the amendment does pass, it would not stop the gay marriages that are scheduled to begin May 17 under a landmark high court decision that ruled it was unconstitutional to bar gay couples from marriage.

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