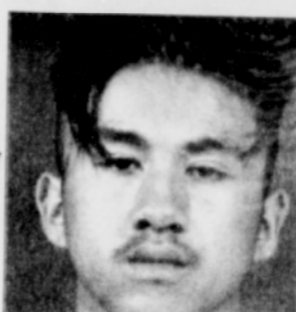




See Sports  
Tom Landry dies at 75



The Focus centers in on Black History Month  
See Focus



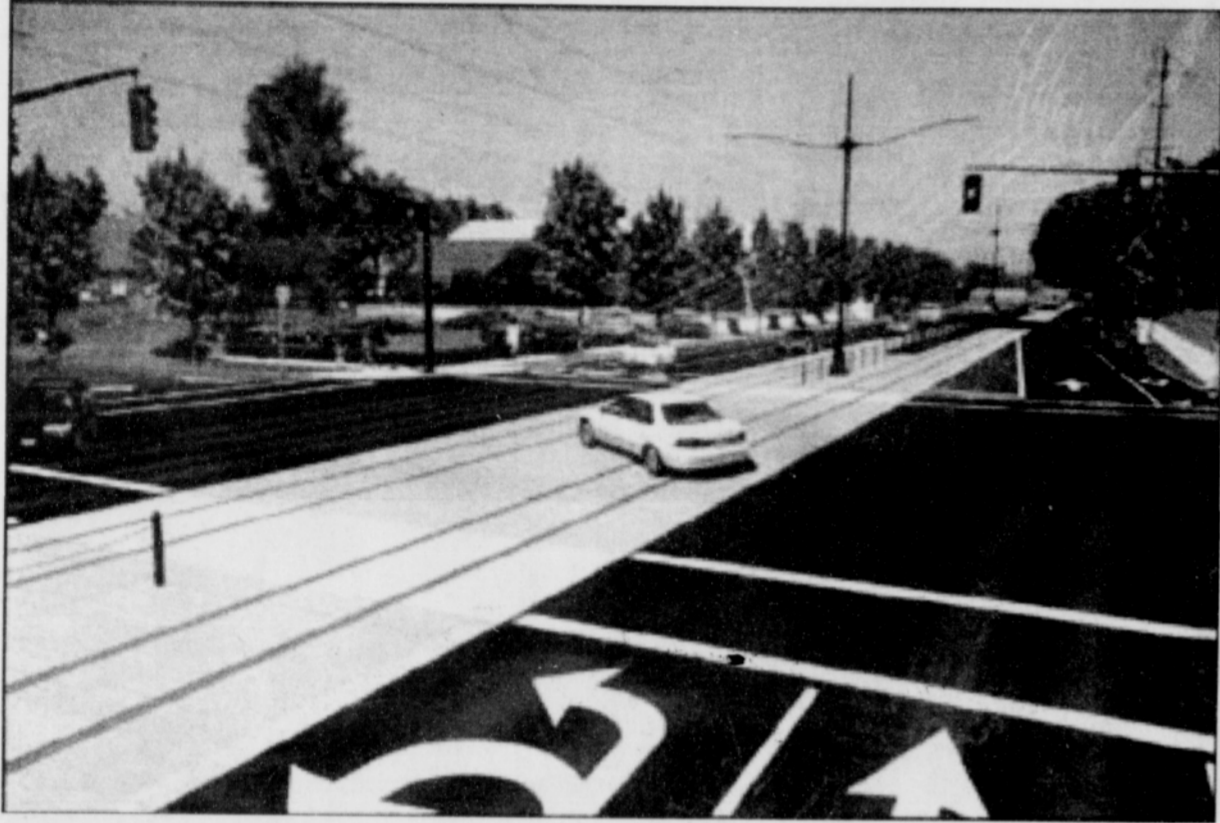
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# The Portland Observer

## Bruce Watts joins Tri-Met team



CONTRIBUTED STORY FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Tri-Met has hired Bruce Watts to manage its programs to engage disadvantaged businesses and minority/female workers for the Interstate MAX project.

The 5.6-mile, \$350 million Interstate MAX extension includes 10 new stations in North Portland between the Expo Center and Rose Quarter Transit Center and would operate directly between Expo Center and the Galleria/SW 10<sup>th</sup> Ave station.

"Bruce will help Tri-Met pursue opportunities to contract with disadvantaged businesses and to achieve a workforce reflecting the community we're building in," said Fred Hansen, Tri-Met General Manager. "His background in minority contracting and strong community connections are a tremendous resource."

Watts has served as executive director of The Coalition of Black Men from 1997 to 1999. He was the organization's program director from 1991 to 1997 and served as secretary since the coalition's inception in 1988.

While with The Coalition of Black Men, Watts coordinated two City of Portland employment programs for disadvantaged residents: First Source Hiring Program and the Construction Trades Intern Program. Since then, Watts has led the coalition's efforts in fair contracting

and employment for minorities and women. Watts headed a recent Coalition of Black Men/City of Portland survey of African American construction contractors. He also served on the City of Portland's Fair Contracting and Employment Forum.



Bruce Watts, Manager of Tri-Met's DBE Workforce with the Interstate MAX project.

## Parts replaced in planes

ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. airlines have replaced 15 jackscrew devices in the tail sections of planes the Federal Aviation Administration ordered inspected after an Alaska Airlines plane crashed last month into the Pacific Ocean, killing all 88 aboard.

The crew lost control of the plane while trying to fix problems with its stabilizer, a part in the tail that helps level the aircraft. The jackscrew, a long, threaded piece of metal that turns to move through a stationary nut, is part of the stabilizer that was causing problems for the Alaska Airlines pilots. The FAA said Tuesday that 1,101 planes in the MD-80, MD-90, DC-9 and Boeing 717 series are subject to the inspections. Of 960 inspections completed so far, 27 revealed problems that required

additional evaluation or repair.

Gritty material was found in the jackscrew grease of some planes. Jackscrews were replaced on 15 airplanes and stabilizer assemblies were lubricated in others, federal regulators said.

"There's no pattern that's jumping out at us," FAA spokesman Les Dorr said about problems that have surfaced from the inspections. "It's different models, different carriers. It will require further analysis to find out if there is a common denominator." The FAA said 141 inspections have not yet been finalized.

At the National Transportation Safety Board, investigators are looking at suspect airplane parts in their attempt to find out why Alaska Airlines Flight 261 crashed Jan. 31 off the California coast.

"They're still bringing up wreckage

and we'll bring up any human remains that we find," said NTSB spokesman Terry Williams. "It's still an ongoing investigation."

So far, 47 bodies have been positively identified by the Ventura County medical examiner in southern California. No new remains have been received since Feb. 7. Family notifications are continuing.

John Nance, an aviation analyst in Tacoma, Wash., said he is surprised that the airlines found it necessary to replace 15 jackscrews. "Why are we getting metal-to-metal contact? That's not the sole cause of the crash, but it is an important component."

He said the jackscrew apparently pulled free of a mechanical stop at the bottom of the nut. The NTSB has reported that shreds of metal attached to the jackscrew are of the same material as the threads of the nut.

"Regardless of what happened to the jackscrew, nut and assembly, the last safety measure is the presence of that mechanical stop," Nance said. "What we have here — stripping or not — is the failure of the mechanical stop. If that had not happened, this crew could have recovered the aircraft." The military has also been checking its C-9 planes, the military version of the DC-9.

Navy spokesman Rob Koon said inspections done on 21 of the 29 C-9 aircraft operated by the Navy and Marine Corps revealed no problems. The remaining eight currently are undergoing heavy maintenance, but inspections on four of the eight showed no defects, Koon said.

Air Force spokesman Capt. Brad Jessmer said all the C-9s in service with the Air Force had passed inspection. Others currently out-of-service for maintenance still have to be checked.



An American Airlines employee takes a break and watches an MD80 prepare for an on-time departure Friday, Feb. 11, at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago. Delays that were predicted after the FAA ordered the inspection of the tail sections of all MD80 aircraft failed to develop.

## Black History Month



In celebration of this year's Black History Month, The Portland Observer is highlighting important moments in Black History. Anise Perry, center, was the first black Queen of Rosaria in 1968. She attended Cleveland High School. In the photo, Happy Canyon princesses of the Pendleton Roundup show Perry the fur they intertwine in their braids. Please see Focus and the rest of the newspaper for glimpses into Black History.

### Weather

Through the weekend

Today Mostly cloudy 52°F/11°C 34°F/1°C

Thursday Partly cloudy 49°F/10°C 32°F/0°C

Friday Partly cloudy 51°F/10°C 34°F/1°C

Saturday Mostly cloudy 52°F/11°C 38°F/3°C

Sunday Showers 53°F/11°C 39°F/4°C

### Inside-A

Week in Review.....2  
Physicians honored by peers.....3  
DePriest wins humanitarian award.....5  
BBB complains about High-tech industry.....6

### Metro-B

Portland State has new Underground Railroad Center..1  
Tom Landry dies at age 75.....2  
Cenizas opens at El Centro Milagro.....3  
El Observador.....4

### This Week in History

February 16, 1923, the burial chamber of King Tutankhamen's recently unearthed tomb was unsealed in Egypt.  
February 19, 1945, during World War II, some 30,000 U.S. Marines landed on the Western Pacific island of Iwo Jima, where they encountered ferocious resistance from Japanese forces.  
February 21, 1965, former Black Muslim leader Malcolm X was shot and killed by assassins identified as Black Muslims as he was about to address a rally in New York City; he was 39.