

AUTOBRIEFS

Photo courtesy of the NAACP Legal Defense Team and Educational Fund, Inc.

GENERAL MOTORS SPONSORS EXHIBIT HONORING THURGOOD MARSHALL

Thurgood Marshall, the first black Supreme Court Justice, was honored with an exhibit documenting the trials and triumphs of African Americans. President Bill Clinton and Rosa Parks, the mother of the Civil Rights Movement, were among others on hand as Marshall's widow, Cecilia Marshall, cut the ribbon to unveil the historic exhibit. The exhibit was designed to provide information on the fundamental importance of the 14th Amendment and Declaration of Independence as it relates to the struggle of African Americans.

The exhibit, sponsored in part by General Motors, will be on display in the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building's Atrium, the first and only federal building in the nation's capitol named for an African



American. "Marching Towards Justice" was created by the Damon J. Keith Law Collection of African American Legal History at Wayne State University. Historian Robert Smith, who is also *African Americans On Wheels'* web maintenance and support manager, was a key contributor to the exhibit.



W. Frank Fountain

FOUNTAIN CHAIRS ANNUAL RECOGNITION EVENT

The Executive Leadership Council and Foundation recently held their 10th Annual Recognition Dinner. W. Frank Fountain, Daimler-Chrysler's senior vice president of government affairs and president of the council, served as the 1998 dinner chairman. The foundation has developed a pilot program, Technology Transfer, with a mission to help historically black colleges update their computer systems. Currently benefiting from the program are Lincoln University, Morehouse, Bethune Cookman College and Hampton University.

1998 winners of Excellence in Business Commentary National Essay Competition



THE NUMBER OF NEW DEALERSHIPS FELL IN 1998

Consolidation among major automakers and the increasing number of dealership chains contributed to a decline in the number of franchised new car dealerships last year, according to the National Automobile Dealers Association. U.S. dealerships dropped by 200 to an estimated 22,400 in 1998, the steepest decline in five years. Sheila Vaden-Williams, executive director of the National Association of Minority Automobile Dealers, notes that minority dealer franchises have been insignificantly affected.