

in a way that's indistinguishable from mechanical failure. "Not having an ASAT is destabilizing," he added.

## Scientist: People want more space activity

"The American people are now telling opinion pollsters: 'We want more manned space programs, more American activity in space.' The politician who decides in that direction is going to pick up a lot of votes," U.S. scientist Dr. Lowell Wood told the journal *Space World* in May.

According to an account in today's *Daily Telegraph* of London, Wood was "outspoken" in his criticisms of the amateur, incompetent politicians who are now running NASA, who are not responding to the public mood.

*Telegraph* science correspondent Adrian Berry states that there is growing "impatience" over NASA's overly cautious response to the challenge posed by the Soviet launch of the super-booster rocket *Energia*. According to Berry, "many influential people . . . fear that the Russians will have built huge space stations and a permanent colony on the Moon while the Americans remain grounded by safety fears. As one scientist put it: 'They will soon own the whole sky from here to the Moon.'"

## Dukakis seeks Hollywood's support

Massachusetts governor, Swarthmore College graduate, and Democratic presidential contender Michael Dukakis was scrutinized by Hollywood notables, politicians, and moneybags toward the end of May when he spoke at several fundraisers in Los Angeles.

Among those who attended a private dinner for Dukakis, hosted by Norman Lear, the producer of the TV sitcom "Family Ties," were songwriters for Barbara Streisand. Said Tony Podesta, ex-president of Lear's liberal advocacy organization, People for the

American Way, The Lear dinner "isn't a fundraiser. . . . But it's a chance for Dukakis to meet people who already have met as a group with other Democratic candidates." Podesta is now a Dukakis "volunteer."

Jane Fonda, according to the *Boston Globe*, had "little to say" after Dukakis' private talk to the Hollywood Women's Political Committee and declined to say whether she would support him financially or politically after the withdrawal of her previous favorite, Gary Hart.

Dukakis is viewed in some quarters as a stalking horse for Ted Kennedy.

## Gephardt calls for 'open mind' on Soviets

Asked about U.S. relations with the Soviet Union during a meeting with *Boston Globe* editors May 22, presidential aspirant Rep. Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.) been "particularly harmful for the President to label them the evil empire."

He said he would encourage Americans to "open their minds" to the Soviet Union, because he believes that there can be changes in Soviet society and that protection of human rights will improve. "You can more successfully manage the relationship so you lessen the likelihood there will be a nuclear war," he added.

Gephardt came under fire the same day from GOP aspirant Pete du Pont, who attacked his trade war legislation, calling it an example of "kamikaze economics." Du Pont predicted that Gephardt's economics would result in a loss of 3.5 million jobs nationally. "Protectionism is not the answer to the trade problem. . . . In fact, it would worsen the very problem it promises to fix. It costs in terms of higher prices, reduced trade opportunities, the stifling of innovation, and the threatened return to economic depression."

He continued: "The Gephardt approach reminds me of the Smoot-Hawley Tariff bill enacted in the midst of the Great Depression. . . . It amounts to a kamikaze economics that would cause our economy to self-destruct."

## Briefly

● **THE NATIONAL BANK** of Washington, D.C. has filed a federal lawsuit in Denver against Gary Hart. The bank is trying to collect more than \$500,000 it claims Hart still owes on a loan from his 1984 presidential campaign.

● **FBI AGENTS** across the country have contacted scores of supporters of Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche and publications associated with him, and attempted to badger them into saying they had been "victims of fraud." "You may not think you were defrauded, but you're not the expert," agents told stunned individuals. None of the persons visited so far, to *EIR's* knowledge, ever filed a complaint warranting the FBI visits.

● **ST. CLARE'S** Hospital in New York City may become the city's first hospital for the treatment of AIDS victims under a plan disclosed May 27 by state and federal health officials. St. Clare's, with 250 beds, would be the largest AIDS hospital in the country.

● **ALL POLICE** in Washington, D.C. will have gloves and surgical masks available to guard against exposure to the AIDS virus, police officials announced May 27. Vehicles used to transport prisoners or used by crime scene technicians, also will carry disposable uniforms for the officers' use.

● **THE SUPREME** Court's decision to allow "preventive detention" solely on the basis of a prosecutor's argument that a defendant represents a "danger to the community" was attacked on May 27 by the *Baltimore Sun*, the *Washington Post*, and the *New York Times*, which variously characterized it as "police-state behavior," and "denial of due process of law."