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THE REGISTER CITIZEN

Opinion: Bernie Sanders cannot beat Trump

By Edward L. Marcus
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Photo: Juan Figueroa / Associated Press **Print editions did not use the photo**
Democratic presidential candidate U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., greets supporters during a rally at the Mesquite Arena Feb. 14 in Mesquite, Texas.

There is no question that Bernie Sanders is a draw of sorts and a solid base. He has promised free college tuition, canceling of student loans and Medicare for all. His only answer when asked where the money will come from is: We will get it from the rich, the Wall Street people and the billionaires who have stolen from you.

It sounds good to some people. His rallies, just like Trump, attract hardcore supporters who revel in Bernie's frothing at the mouth, his white hair waving and his blasting income inequality, the rich and, of course, Donald Trump.

Bernie has the fundraising apparatus to stay in the race to the end, so why can't Bernie beat Trump?

Here is why.

Bernie calls himself a socialist. That will become an attack word for the Republicans. They will shift being a “socialist” to saying he is a communist — a communist who wants to take your money and redistribute it so everyone is equal. Whether that is true or not won’t matter — since when did Trump ever tell the truth?

Next, Sanders will be skewered because of his age. He’s nearing 80 years old and he looks every bit of it. Then there is his health. Having had a heart attached, literally several months ago, is not a plus. Trump easily will depict him as a doddering old man.

Lastly, Sanders is always talking about a political revolution. Put socialism and revolution together and you get the problem.

Americans do not want a revolution, but they want and need change. Even in our greatest depressions people were not running around with pitchforks attempting to scale the walls of the super-riches’ estates.

You can picture the advertising campaign against Bernie. Trump’s people will make him look like a class dividing socialist-communist. Bernie’s wife’s problem in running a college in Vermont into the ground will not help. Of course, there are tons of counterpoints against Trump and his family but the hard fact is, whether it is right or wrong, a lot of Democratic voters just won’t go as far left as Bernie would like.

So what does the Democratic Party do? Well, I personally was for Joe Biden as he would make a really good President. However, he is short of money and primary voters.

Biden has performed on an okay basis but just doesn’t seem to have the fire necessary to arouse the center of the party and it doesn’t look like he is well organized, which is essential in primaries.

On the other hand, former New York Mayor Mike Bloomberg has whatever money it takes and then some and he can handle Trump in debates. His massive advertising campaign appears to be working as he is moving up in the polls.

I have no doubt that Bloomberg can beat Trump and for a vast majority of Democrats, Independents and some Republicans, that is what it is all about.

Super Tuesday and the March primaries will soon be upon us. If Bloomberg does well he will be the Democrat Parties nominee.

Atty. Edward L. Marcus is former chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee in Connecticut and former State Senate majority leader. His office is in Branford.