

5 things to watch for on first night of Dem debate

By Michael Finnegan
Los Angeles Times

The Democrats vying to challenge President Donald Trump will no doubt take turns denouncing him when they gather in Miami for their first debate on Wednesday and Thursday.

Will they be as combative toward one another?

Most of the 20 candidates onstage - 10 each night - will be grasping for ways to stand out. Attacks are high-risk, though, so civility might well prevail.

For the opening round on Wednesday, center stage will belong to Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and former Rep. Beto O'Rourke of Texas, flanked by Sens. Cory Booker of New Jersey and Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota.

Joining them will be former Housing Secretary Julián Castro; Reps. Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii and Tim Ryan of Ohio; Washington Gov. Jay Inslee; New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and former Rep. John Delaney of Maryland.

Some of the best-known contenders - former Vice President Joe Biden and Sens. Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Kamala Harris of California - will be absent; they're in the group that debates on Thursday.

To watch Wednesday's opener, tune in at 6 p.m. PT on NBC, MSNBC or Telemundo. Here are five things to watch:

1. Can Warren leapfrog Sanders?

With one of the boldest progressive policy agendas of the field, Warren has steadily risen in the polls, eroding Sanders' standing as the favorite of the party's left wing.

The debate gives Warren a chance to make further gains in what's likely to be the most widely watched event of the campaign so far.

At the same time, the absence of both Biden and Sanders the first night could make Warren a tempting target, particularly for Klobuchar, who markets herself as a moderate alternative with appeal in the crucial general-election battlegrounds of the upper Midwest.

2. Will a lower-tier candidate catch fire?

Castro, the sole Latino in the race, has worked mightily to compete with Warren on the policy front with far-reaching plans on immigration and housing - so far to no avail. The debate will give the former San Antonio mayor his biggest audience since his keynote address to the Democrats' 2012 national convention.

For O'Rourke, whose campaign has faded since his heavily hyped entrance into the contest, the center-stage spot next to Warren offers a prime opportunity for a reset.

Booker, too, is hoping to burst into the top tier after months of languishing in the low single digits. One of two African Americans among the most serious contenders for the nomination, he raised his profile last week when he attacked Biden for praising the civility of segregationists in the Senate decades ago.

For those stuck at the bottom of the field, such as Gabbard, Ryan and Delaney, a vault upward could require some serious theatrics.

3. Have the times changed on global warming?

Climate change got scant attention

in the 2016 presidential debates - to the disappointment of many voters and the outrage of environmentalists.

That could change in the 2020 debates, and not just because Trump has sought to reverse every major Obama administration policy aimed at slowing global warming.

It's a growing concern among Democrats, especially younger voters. Several candidates have released ambitious proposals to fight climate change. And it's the signature issue of Inslee, who is all but certain to bring it up even if he's not asked about it.

The debate's setting is also noteworthy: Miami is one of the most vulnerable cities in the world to rising sea levels.

4. How will moderators keep control?

Five moderators - Lester Holt, José Diaz-Balart, Savannah Guthrie, Chuck Todd and Rachel Maddow - will pose questions to the candidates.

Will they tag-team on one another's questions, allowing a deep exploration of issues? Or will they keep starting a fresh round of questioning that cuts off some of the candidates?

5. Will the candidates attack Biden, even though he's not onstage?

It's always dangerous for one contender to attack another in a multi-candidate debate. The one attacking can wind up suffering blowback.

As the clear front-runner, Biden is the most obvious target, but he won't be onstage the first night. Will opponents go after him anyway? If they do, will the moderators try to stop them?



MUELLER: In a 2013 file image, former FBI Director Robert Mueller attends the swearing-in ceremony of FBI Director James Comey at FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Tribune News Service file photo

Trump, without offering evidence, accuses Mueller of crimes

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Donald Trump, without offering evidence, on Wednesday directly accused former special counsel Robert Mueller of committing a crime, saying Mueller had illegally "terminated" FBI communications as part of his Russia investigation.

The Justice Department declined to comment.

"Mueller terminated them illegally. He terminated all of the emails. ... Robert Mueller terminated their text messages together. He terminated them. They're gone. And that's illegal. That's a crime," Trump said in an interview with Fox Business Network, referring to two former Federal Bureau of Investigation employees who exchanged disparaging messages about the president.

Trump made the remarks ahead of Mueller's scheduled testimony before lawmakers next month about his investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. election and whether the Trump campaign colluded with Moscow.

The Republican president, who formally launched his re-election bid last week, repeatedly railed against Mueller's probe during the two-year investigation and accused several of the team's investigators of being Democrats targeting him.

THE GUAM BOARD OF BARBERING & COSMETOLOGY

Regular Board Meeting Monday, July 08, 2019 at 9:00 AM

in the Health Professional Licensing Office Board Conference Room, Terlaje Professional Bldg., 194 Hernan Cortez Ave., 2nd Floor Suite 209, Hagåtña, Guam

For more information contact the Board office at 735-7411 thru 12. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations may call the ADA coordinator at 735-7172 or the telecommunication device for the Hearing/Speech Impaired (TDD) at 649-1801.

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CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES On July 2, \$1 was worth:	51.118 PHPP	108.35 JPY	1,166.55 KRW	31.007 TWD NT\$	6.8646 CNY	1.4330 AUD A\$	0.8859 EUR €
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HART: Apple Pacific Restaurant Group President and CEO Richard Hart talks about IHOP's updated menu during an interview with The Guam Daily Post at IHOP Tamuning on Tuesday.
Photos by David Castro/The Guam Daily Post



CHEESEBURGER OMELETTE: The Cheeseburger Omelittle, a new size for IHOP's omelets, with original buttermilk pancakes.



BIG STEAK OMELETTE: The Big Steak Omelittle with the new chocolate chip pancakes.

IHOP launches streamlined, affordable menu

By Lannie Walker
lannie@postguam.com

Richard Hart, the president and CEO of Apple Pacific Restaurant Group, is more of a behind-the-scenes type of guy, by his own admission. But when the company decided to refocus strategy at one of its restaurants, Hart felt he needed to be the one to take the lead in reaching out and letting the public know about the change.

Hart came to Guam 20 years ago and worked his way up from a server at Outback Steakhouse to the head

of a company that runs several local chains including IHOP, Applebee's, Pieology and, most recently, Olive Garden.

Success is not new to Hart, but he is also willing to admit when his company could have done better.

Hart recently took a good, hard look at the IHOP location in Tamuning and decided change was needed.

"There is a certain level of expectation that people have when they walk in," he said of the restaurant. "There have been times when maybe that has not gone the way it's supposed to go."

Having opened six properties on

Guam in the last five years - IHOP Tamuning turns 4 this summer - Hart is the first to admit that, sometimes, "things fall through the cracks."

'If I were a customer ...'

So, Hart decided to look at things the way a customer would. He slid into a booth, ordered a table of food and asked himself, "If I were a customer, what would this be worth to me?"

"I realized it wasn't worth what we were charging," he said. "I think it's important that we are honest about that."

Hart got out his figurative knife, started slashing prices and, "brought

it back in line with our competition."

The company also reassessed what IHOP was serving, cutting 51 menu items and adding 12.

"We do have local items, but we have scaled them back to the items we feel customers were telling us they wanted," he said.

Doing what they do best

Hart said it is a matter of knowing who they are and doing what they do best, and "executing that properly for people that are coming in with their children, with their families."

Though Hart knows he is taking a risk, he said he is confident in his team and is hopeful customers will give them another chance to regain their trust.

"We are looking forward to people coming in and giving it a try," he said.

THE GUAM BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS

Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, July 11, 2019
at 3:00 PM

in the Health Professional Licensing Office Board Conference Room, Terlaje Professional Bldg., 194 Hernan Cortez Ave., 2nd Floor Suite 209, Hagåtña, Guam

Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations may call the ADA at 735-7172.

THE GUAM BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK

Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, July 11, 2019
at 11:00 AM

in the Health Professional Licensing Office Board Conference Room, Terlaje Professional Bldg., 194 Hernan Cortez Ave., 2nd Floor Suite 209, Hagåtña, Guam

For more information please contact the Board office at 735-7408/11. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations may call the ADA Coordinator at 735-7172 or the telecommunication device for the Hearing/Speech Impaired (TDD) at 649-1801. Executive meeting may be called if necessary.

THE GUAM BOARD OF BARBERING & COSMETOLOGY

Regular Board Meeting
Monday, July 08, 2019 at 9:00 AM

in the Health Professional Licensing Office Board Conference Room, Terlaje Professional Bldg., 194 Hernan Cortez Ave., 2nd Floor Suite 209, Hagåtña, Guam

For more information contact the Board office at 735-7411 thru 12. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations may call the ADA coordinator at 735-7172 or the telecommunication device for the Hearing/Speech Impaired (TDD) at 649-1801.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
Notice of Meeting
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At 5:45 p.m., Thursday, July 11, 2019, Bell Tower, 710 W. Marine Corps Dr., Hagåtña, Guam. For special accommodations, call Eric Miller/ADA Coordinator at 647-1855. Agenda at csc.guam.gov. /s/ Daniel D. Leon Guerrero, Executive Director.

GUAM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA), a public corporation, will be holding its Regular Board of Directors meeting on Monday, July 8, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. in the GEDA conference room located in Suite 511, 5th Floor, International Trade Center (ITC) Building, 590 South Marine Corps Drive, Tamuning, Guam.

Persons requiring special accommodations should contact GEDA's ADA coordinator, Mr. Austin Grant, at 647-4332 or austin.grant@investguam.com.

/s/ MELANIE MENDIOLA
Chief Executive Officer/Administrator
This ad was paid for with GEDA's General Fund

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CANNABIS CONTROL BOARD
NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

The Cannabis Control Board will be meeting on Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 1:30pm in the Large Conference Room at the Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex, Hagatna.

For any special accommodations, please contact: 625-4776-14776