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## What's News

### Business & Finance

◆ **A sudden surge in long-term interest rates to 16-year highs is threatening hopes for an economic soft landing, all the more because the exact triggers for the moves are unclear. A1, B5**

◆ **An intensifying bond sell-off sparked new stock-market losses, with the S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow falling 1.4%, 1.9% and 1.3%, respectively. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 4.801% B1**

◆ **Amazon used an algorithm to test how much it could raise prices in a way that competitors would follow, according to redacted portions of the FTC's monopoly lawsuit against the company. A1**

◆ **Jury selection began in the criminal case against Sam Bankman-Fried, who is on trial for actions that allegedly led to the abrupt meltdown of the FTX crypto exchange last year. B1**

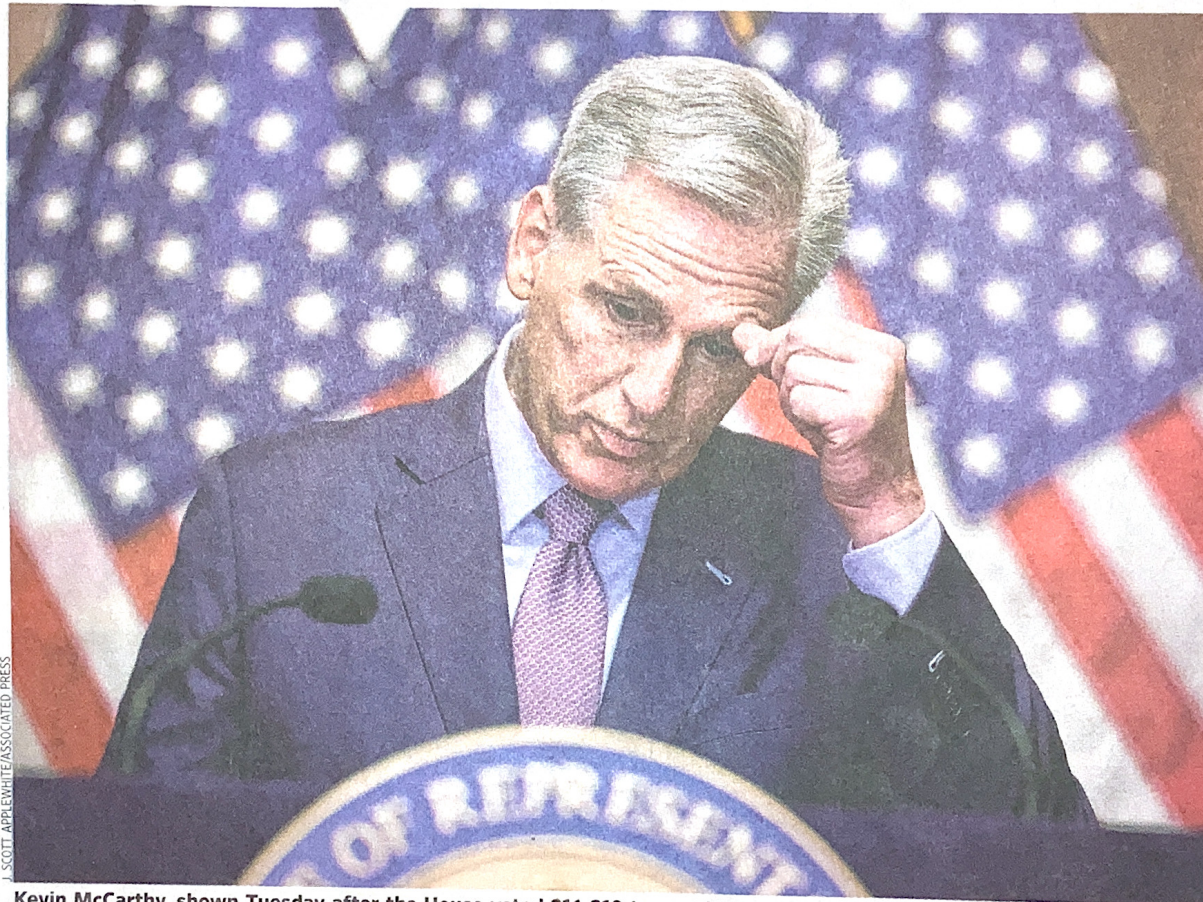
◆ **Meta floated the idea of charging European users the equivalent of \$14 a month for ad-free Instagram in a gambit to steer around EU rules on personalized ads. B1**

◆ **Netflix plans to raise the price of its ad-free service a few months after the continuing Hollywood actors strike ends, likely starting in the U.S. and Canada. B1**

◆ **Intel intends to sell a stake in a division that makes programmable chips widely used in the defense and telecommunications industries. B2**

◆ **Sens. Marsha Blackburn and Richard Blumenthal are**

## House Removes McCarthy as Speaker



Kevin McCarthy, shown Tuesday after the House voted 216-210 to oust him, is the first speaker to be forced from office.

Hard-right GOP faction ousts its own leader, triggering disarray in chamber

WASHINGTON—The House removed Rep. Kevin McCarthy as speaker on Tuesday, after a small band of GOP dissidents moved to oust the Republican leader and Democrats didn't come to his rescue during a dramatic vote with no precedent in U.S. history.

By Kristina Peterson, Siobhan Hughes and Katy Stech Ferek

▮ The California Republican was dethroned after nine months of fighting with hard-line party conservatives and just days after he engineered legislation to avert a government shutdown with the help of Democrats, which drew sharp criticism from the GOP dissidents led by Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida.

The stunning defeat set off a scramble among Republicans to find their next party leader, after McCarthy said that he wouldn't seek to win the gavel back. ▮ Republicans said they

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## Soaring Bond Yields Threaten Fed Goal Of a Soft Landing

By Nick Timiraos

A sudden surge in long-term interest rates to 16-year highs

It comes as inflation has eased and the Fed has signaled it is nearly done lifting rates.

Yields on the 10-year Treasury

## Amazon Used Secret Code To Game Prices, FTC Says

By Dana Mattioli

Amazon.com used an algorithm code-named "Project Nessie" to test how much it could raise prices in a way

that competitors didn't raise their prices to Amazon's level, the algorithm—which is no longer in use—automatically returned the item

according to former employees who worked on the algorithm and pricing team.

The algorithm helped Amazon recoup money and improve margins. The FTC's lawsuit



Rep. Matt Gaetz spoke on the House floor Tuesday in favor of his motion to vacate the chair of Speaker Kevin McCarthy.

# McCarthy Is Ousted As Speaker

Continued from Page One  
would cancel votes for the rest of the week to regroup and allow contenders to step forward, with a vote as soon as next Wednesday.

“Unfortunately, 4% of our conference can join all the Democrats and dictate who could be the Republican speaker in this House,” McCarthy said in televised remarks. “I will not run for speaker again.”

No speaker had ever before been removed from office, and the move puts the GOP at the mercy of the dozen or so dissidents, barring some sort of deal with Democrats.

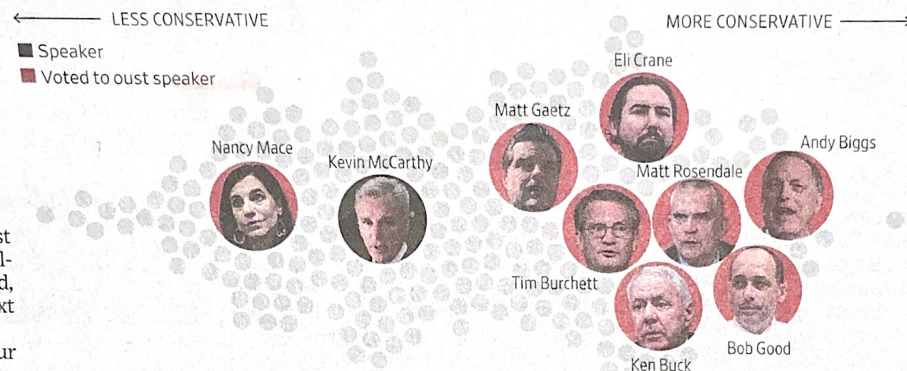
GOP lawmakers left an evening closed-door meeting weary from days of infighting and shocked at its repercussions. No further votes were expected in the House this week, with the chamber effectively paralyzed until a new leader is chosen.

“We have to figure out a way forward with a group of people that are hell bent on disruption,” said Rep. Dan Crenshaw (R., Texas).

It was unclear who the next speaker nominee for Republicans would be, although House Majority Leader Steve Scalise of Louisiana was seen as a top contender. When asked if he wanted to be speaker, he said that he hadn’t “made any announcement,” but felt good despite being treated for blood cancer. Others seen as contenders include Reps. Chip Roy (R., Texas), Jim Jordan (R., Ohio), and Kevin Hern (R., Okla.).

McCarthy was made vulnerable by the GOP’s thin majority—just 221-212—and a rule pushed by conservatives that any single member could seek to remove him from office, as a condition of his being named speaker in the first place. In his press conference, asked if he had any advice for the next speaker, he

## Distribution of Republican House members by ideological position



Note: Based on DW-Nominate scores, a measure of ideology using roll call votes

Source: Voteview.com

said: “Change the rules.”

Gaetz had criticized McCarthy for months, charging that the speaker had broken his word to conservatives on spending bills and how he would run the House.

McCarthy and his allies have said the effort was a personal vendetta by Gaetz that would hurt the Republican Party.

This week, days after McCarthy passed a short-term spending patch with Democratic votes, Gaetz led the charge to remove McCarthy, putting his motion to oust the speaker up for a vote on Tuesday afternoon.

McCarthy and his allies tried to project confidence, saying the vast majority of his conference supported him.

“At the end of the day, keeping government open and paying our troops was the right decision. I stand by that decision,” McCarthy said before the votes. McCarthy allies immediately moved to table, or kill, the Gaetz measure. But the vote failed, with 11 Republicans and all Democrats opposed.

With his prospects rapidly dimming, McCarthy’s allies spent an hour feuding with Gaetz on the floor in a series of angry speeches and retorts. Rep. Garret Graves (R., La.) excoriated Gaetz for fundraising off his efforts to oust McCarthy, and even some of the House’s most conservative Republicans praised their embattled colleague, saying he exceeded expectations of what the House

GOP could achieve.

“If this House of Representatives has exceeded all expectations, then we definitely need higher expectations,” Gaetz shot back on the floor.

The House then went ahead with the Gaetz measure, calling the roll alphabetically, with each member shouting a vote. The measure passed 216-210, with Gaetz and seven other Republicans plus all Democrats voting to remove McCarthy, vacating the speaker chair and teeing up another vote soon to choose the next leader.

“The office of speaker of the House of the United States House of Representatives is hereby declared vacant,” said Rep. Steve Womack (R., Ark.), who presided over the vote.

All the Republicans to vote to oust McCarthy were hard-line conservatives, except for one: Rep. Nancy Mace (R., S.C.), who said that McCarthy has broken his word on taking up legislation related to women’s issues and community safety, as well as on budget issues.

“This is about trust and keeping your word,” she said on social media. McCarthy disputed that, saying he had not broken any promises.

House Republicans met behind closed doors late Tuesday

to start feeling out their next steps. With McCarthy ruling out a comeback, lawmakers could need to seek a leader able to draw support from both parties, given the immovability of the Republicans opposed to McCarthy.

“No one has come forward and no one has shown any interest in running for speaker,” said Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R., Ga.). “No one has support in the conference like Kevin McCarthy does.”

GOP lawmakers were also discussing changing the rules that enabled Gaetz acting on his own to move forward with the challenge to McCarthy.

Coming into the day, a big question was whether at least some Democrats would side with McCarthy, figuring it would be better to keep McCarthy in office, just as the government faces a mid-November funding deadline and big questions such as the future of U.S. support for Ukraine are in play. But it quickly became clear that there was little appetite to help him, unless the party won major concessions, and McCarthy made clear he wouldn’t cut a deal.

Democratic leaders recommended that colleagues vote against saving McCarthy, saying he had done nothing to try to

win their support, and that this fight was a problem the GOP had to solve itself.

In January, it took 15 ballots over four days to elect McCarthy as speaker, as McCarthy worked to win over holdouts.

“They must find a way to end the House Republican Civil War,” said Rep. Hakeem Jeffries of New York, the chamber’s Democratic leader, before the votes.

Democrats were also still seething that McCarthy, after striking a deal with President Biden to set fiscal 2024 spending at \$1.59 trillion, went ahead and blessed GOP bills setting spending at a net \$1.471 trillion. He followed that up by announcing an impeachment inquiry into Biden.

McCarthy’s allies argued that removing the speaker would plunge the chamber into chaos and limit the GOP’s ability to make progress on conservative goals.

“This is a terrible distraction from the conservative agenda. He wants to get it over with so we can get back to work,” Rep. Dusty Johnson (R., S.D.) said.

Centrist Republicans beseeched their Democratic friends to side with McCarthy, with Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R., Pa.) warning that his ouster would trigger a government shutdown in mid-November and put aid to Ukraine at risk, with ripple effects for Taiwan. Many Republicans are also deeply frustrated by Gaetz, who they believe is motivated by a desire to claim the limelight rather than policy. Gaetz has said that is untrue.

Democrats cast the problem as entirely of the GOP’s own making. Even the centrists who were earlier seen as one route for McCarthy to remain in power said he had offered no concessions.

Following the motion-to-vacate vote, Rep. Patrick McHenry (R., N.C.) stepped in as speaker pro tempore of the House, under post-9/11 rules requiring the speaker to name a temporary replacement in case of a vacancy. He immediately gaveled the session to a close.

—Lindsay Wise and Eliza Collins contributed to this article.

## ‘They must find a way to end the House Republican Civil War.’

## Historic vote spurred

# Turncoats join Dems in act of sabotage

New York Post, Wednesday, October 4, 2023 nypost.com

**DAN McLAUGHLIN**



**T**HERE are two major political parties in this country, and sometimes it seems as if all either of them cares about is preventing Republicans from getting anything done.

~ Tuesday's vote to remove Kevin McCarthy as speaker of the House — the first such removal in American history — was an act of staggering stupidity and self-destruction, brought about by just eight of the 221 House Republicans joining with the entire Democratic caucus to vote McCarthy out. ~

There are plenty of reasons to take issue with McCarthy. Some see him as weak on budgetary discipline, while others see him as too close to Donald Trump. Republicans seriously underperformed expectations in House races in 2022, which is why McCarthy has such a narrow majority.

~ It was McCarthy's weakness that led him to agree in the first place to let anybody bring a vote to remove him at any time.

Then again, being a congressional party leader is hard, especially for Republicans, who don't expect to govern by just spreading taxpayer money around. It's hard to remember a Republican leader in the House or Senate who was widely popular within the party. ~

~ McCarthy is a prodigious fundraiser who helped even some of the dissidents win their seats. As speaker, he held his caucus together in the debt-ceiling fight, catching Joe Biden unawares, and he managed to avert a government shutdown. He's made the best of a weak hand.

~ Whatever the merits of replacing McCarthy, ousting a party leader in the middle of his term is self-defeating. Matt Gaetz and his fellow rebels don't even appear to have a new leader in mind, and they can't elect one with just eight votes. They might end up with no alternative to someone just like McCarthy. ~

### Letting Joe off hook

~ This is bad politics and bad policy. There are many things Republicans could be talking about and doing right now to help themselves and the country, including passing a budget, holding a serious debate on Ukraine aid, pushing for action to secure the border, spotlighting Joe Biden's corruption and impeaching him, even punishing Jamaal Bowman for his idiotic stunt of pulling a fire alarm to stop a vote. ~

Instead, all anybody will be talking about for weeks is the hunt for a new speaker.

~ How are Republicans supposed to make the case that they're trying to remove Biden over something serious when they just removed their own leader for no good reason? ~

They are not conservatives and they don't get to call themselves conservatives.

— Rep. Kevin McCarthy



Reuters

**LOSER:** Kevin McCarthy speaks to the press Tuesday after being deposed as House speaker following a vote of no confidence from eight Republicans and all Democrats. His ally, Rep. Patrick McHenry (inset), is temporarily in charge.

# HOUSE ON FIRE

# by GOP rebels strips Speaker McC

By RYAN KING and VICTOR NAVA

Reuters

## Gaetz wins a grudge match



**FEUDING:** Rep. Kevin McCarthy says the animosity toward him from Rep. Matt Gaetz (left) stems from the ex-speaker's refusal to intervene in an investigation of Gaetz.

Kevin McCarthy made the wrong kind of history Tuesday — becoming the first speaker of the House of Representatives to be ousted by a floor vote driven by members of his own party, whom he lashed out against after his fate was sealed.

"They're not conservatives and they don't get to call themselves conservatives," McCarthy said of the eight GOP members who, with help from Democrats, orchestrated an effort not seen in more than 100 years to oust him from the speakership.

Eight Republicans — Reps. Andy Biggs of Arizona, Ken Buck of Colorado, Tim Burchett of Tennessee, Eli Crane of Arizona, Matt Gaetz of Florida, Bob Good of Virginia, Nancy Mace of South Carolina and Matt Rosendale of Montana — banded together with a united Democrat conference to declare the office of speaker vacant by a vote of 216-210, plunging the chamber into chaos and uncertainty as it faces a grinding process to pick his replacement.

McCarthy (R-Calif.), who ruled himself out of trying for the job again Tuesday night, pulled no punches when asked about Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Fla.), the mastermind of his historic removal.

"You all know Matt Gaetz," he told reporters during his first remarks following his ouster. "You know it was personal. It had nothing to do with spending."

McCarthy charged that his Florida peer's actions were "not becoming of a member of Congress."

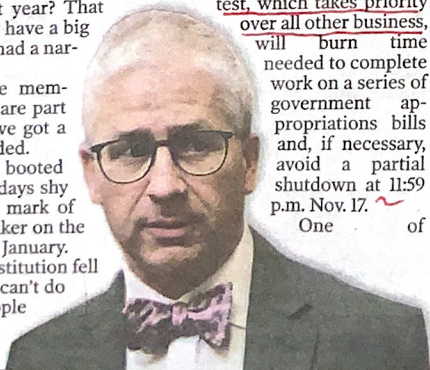
The former speaker, whose 269-day tenure leading the lower chamber is the shortest in nearly 150 years, also accused Rosendale — one of the eight — of appealing to God for Republicans to suffer defeats in 2022 midterm elections.

"Matt Rosendale. He goes to Mass every day," McCarthy said. "But you know what he said his prayer was all last year? That Republicans didn't have a big victory. That they had a narrow victory."

"When you have members like that, that are part of your team, you've got a tough team," he added.

McCarthy was booted from his job three days shy of the nine-month mark of his election as speaker on the 15th ballot this past January.

"My fear is the institution fell today, because you can't do the job if eight people — you have 94% of, or 96% of, your



The feud between GOP Reps. Matt Gaetz and Kevin McCarthy goes back much further than Tuesday's historic vote to unseat McCarthy as House speaker.

Gaetz (Fla.) has long been the loudest opponent of McCarthy (Calif.), voting "present" rather than backing his bid for the gavel in January.

McCarthy has repeatedly claimed Gaetz bears a grudge because McCarthy refused to intervene in a House Ethics Committee investigation of the Floridian.

"He's blaming me for an ethics complaint against him that happened in the last Congress. I have nothing to do with it," McCarthy told CNBC's "Squawk Box" hours before he was voted out.

"He wants me to try to wipe that away... I'm not going to do that. That's illegal," McCarthy said. "And you know what? If some way I lose my job because I uphold the law [and the] continuity of government, so be it."

McCarthy told reporters later Tuesday: "You all know Matt Gaetz. You know it was per-

sonal. It had nothing to do with spending."

Gaetz, who is rumored to be mulling a run for Florida governor in 2026, is being eyed by the ethics panel over allegations of sexual misconduct, illicit drug use, campaign-finance violations and taking bribes.

The Republican-controlled House Ethics Committee quietly relaunched its probe into Gaetz this past July, CNN reported.

The investigation was originally opened in April 2021 alongside a Justice Department

probe over allegations that Gaetz was part of a scheme that led to the sex trafficking of a 17-year-old girl.

Federal officials concluded their two-year investigation in February without handing down any criminal charges, but sources told CNN the Justice Department's decision will not impact what the committee will and won't investigate.

The details of the investigation have long been kept under wraps, but center around claims Gaetz engaged in sexual misconduct and illicit drug use; shared inappropriate images or videos on the House floor; misused state identification records; converted campaign funds to personal use; and accepted bribes.

Gaetz has long professed his innocence of both the investigative claims and McCarthy's contention the Floridian blames the now-former House speaker for the reinvestigated investigation.

Many Congress members — including fellow Republicans — reportedly are eager to expel Gaetz if he is found guilty.

Gaetz denies McCarthy's claim, insisting he pushed for the speaker's removal because McCarthy has not been serious in supporting spending cuts.

Katherine Donlevy, with Wires

entire conference — but eight people can partner with the whole other side," McCarthy said. "How do you govern?"

Now lawmakers face a rerun of the marathon speaker selection process, with House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-La.) a favorite to succeed McCarthy.

The sudden speakership contest, which takes priority over all other business, will burn time needed to complete work on a series of government appropriations bills and, if necessary, avoid a partial shutdown at 11:59 p.m. Nov. 17. One of

McCarthy's allies, Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC), was appointed temporary speaker until a replacement is elected. At Tuesday night's conference meeting, McHenry said he planned to keep the House out until next week, with Oct. 11 eyed as the date a new speaker would be chosen.

### 'A very sad day'

A motion to vacate had never been successfully deployed in the House before, and had only been attempted once, in 1910.

Gaetz had dangled the prospect of a revolt against McCarthy almost from the moment the Californian took the gavel. The 41-year-old finally went ahead with the motion to vacate Monday night, after a weekend of stewing over McCarthy's decision to call up a stopgap spending bill to avoid a partial government shutdown — relying on Democratic votes to get the measure through.

"I'm confident I'll hold on," McCarthy told reporters Tuesday morning, but his political demise became just a matter of time when a motion to block Gaetz's effort failed 218-208.

Reps. Warren Davidson (R-Ohio), Cory Mills (R-Fla.) and Victoria Spartz (R-Ind.) voted against the motion to table but to keep McCarthy in place. With only 426 House members casting votes, however, McCarthy needed 214 supporters to keep his speakership.

The failed motion to table triggered an hour of debate between McCarthy's supporters and opponents in the Republican Party.

"We need a speaker who will fight for something, anything, besides staying or becoming speaker," declared Good, who assailed McCarthy for both the debt-limit deal he reached with the Biden administration and the maneuvering to avoid a shutdown.

McCarthy's ally, House Rules Committee chairman Tom Cole

(R-Okla.), followed Good with an impassioned defense of the former speaker.

"This is a very sad day, and certainly a day I never expected to have to live through," Cole bemoaned. "The overwhelming majority of my party supports the speaker that we elected... There's a second group — a small group — honestly they're willing to plunge this body into chaos."

The GOP rebels were bolstered by Democratic leadership, who announced hours before the vote that they had no interest in keeping McCarthy in control of the gavel.

Gaetz earlier suggested Scalise should succeed McCarthy, providing his health allows.

"It is awkward to talk about names until we understand how Mr. Scalise comes out of his treatment for blood cancer," Gaetz said Monday night. "I am not the type of person that just says you blow by somebody because they're getting a medical treatment."

# HOUSE ON FIRE

## Sen. 2nd in line for prez



**BEHIND KAM:** Senate President Pro Tempore Patty Murray is in the presidential line of succession.

Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) is now second in line to the presidency after Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) was ousted from the House speakership.

Murray, who is serving her sixth term in the upper chamber, was sworn in as Senate president pro tempore Tuesday, placing her just behind Vice President Kamala Harris and President Biden in the event of a transfer of power.

"I do feel the weight of the responsibility," Murray said in a phone interview with the Seattle Times. "I

don't think our country wants to see chaos right now. I think they really want us to work together and make sure we're funding the priorities and passing the policies that really help everyday average people."

Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC) will serve as House speaker pro tempore until a new speaker is elected.

He will not assume authority in the event of Biden and Harris vacating their positions.

Josh Christenson

## Trump eyed for post

Rep. Troy Nehls (R-Texas) indicated Tuesday that he will nominate former President Donald Trump to be the next House speaker.

"Kevin McCarthy will NOT be running again as Speaker. I nominate Donald J. Trump for Speaker of the House," Nehls tweeted.

House members have been advised that a vote for a new speaker will not take place until next week. Individuals not serving in Congress,

such as Trump, are eligible to receive votes.

Trump, 77, received one vote for the speakership last January on the seventh, eighth and 11th ballots, despite only being nominated on the 11th by Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Fla.).

McCarthy (R-Calif.) was elected speaker on the 15th ballot in January after five days of voting, only to be ousted nine months later in a historic first for the House of Representatives. Victor Nava

## Tex. senator calls it 'sad'

Texas Republican Sen. John Cornyn blasted his counterparts in the House for toppling the speaker.

"A handful House members just want to blow up the institution and themselves in the process. Sad," Cornyn posted on X, formerly Twitter.

Cornyn was once the No. 2 Senate Republican and his remarks illustrate some of the frustrations between the GOP in the upper chamber and their peers in the House.

Ryan King

## Joe: We still back Ukraine

President Biden held an emergency call with world leaders Tuesday to reassure them of his continuing support for Ukraine, after Congress nixed more war aid over the weekend.

"The president reaffirmed the strong commitment of the United States to supporting Ukraine as it defends itself for as long as it takes, as did every other leader on the call," National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said.

The call included heads of state and foreign ministers from Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Poland, Romania, France and the United Kingdom, as well as the top leaders of NATO and the European Commission, he said.

The White House organized the call after Congress removed a provision for continued Ukraine war funding from a continuing resolution bill passed Saturday in order to keep the government open for business for another 45 days.

Without the additional funding, deputy Pentagon spokeswoman Sabrina Singh told reporters Tuesday that the US only has enough funding to meet Kyiv's battlefield needs "for just a little bit longer." Caitlin Doornbos

By VICTOR NAVA

House Majority Leader Steve Scalise has emerged as one of the leading contenders to replace Kevin McCarthy in the speaker's chair after the California Republican's unprecedented removal from the position on Tuesday.

The 57-year-old veteran congressman, who announced over the summer he's been diagnosed with cancer, wouldn't rule out the possibility that he would seek the speakership when asked by reporters after McCarthy's ouster.

"I enjoy working with [Majority Whip] Tom [Emmer] and our leadership team, and we have a lot of work to get done. But I haven't made any formal announcements," the dad of two said.

The majority leader is already in the process of gauging GOP support for his potential bid for the speakership, according to multiple reports.

Since McCarthy's historic removal, Scalise has reportedly called conservatives who opposed the former House speaker and the Republican delegations of Texas and Florida, according to Punchbowl News, which notes that the calls have been "going well."

To Georgia Republican Rep. Austin Scott, Scalise "is our leader. If he wants it, then I think that it's likely that he will be the leader — the speaker nominee," he told reporters Tuesday, according to Politico.

### The Gaetz factor

Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Fla.), who introduced the motion to remove McCarthy on Monday, has also said that he thinks "very highly" Scalise.

"I would probably vote for Steve Scalise," Gaetz said Monday, while adding that there are probably 100 members of the Re-

# SCALISE IS LEADER OF THE PACK

## Cancer-stricken rep. favorite

publican caucus that he would support.

Scalise has represented Louisiana's 1st Congressional District in the lower chamber since 2008. He's up for re-election in November 2024 and has declared his candidacy for next year's race.

The former computer-systems engineer first got involved in politics in the mid-1990s, serving as a state representative in the Bayou State from 1995-2007.

Scalise nearly died in June 2017

after he was shot by a left-wing fanatic while practicing for the annual Congressional Baseball Game in Alexandria, Va.

In November 2022, the dad of two was elected by his Republican colleagues to serve as House majority leader — the second-highest leadership position in the lower chamber.

The behind-closed-doors vote was reportedly unanimous, according to reports.

Scalise, a former House minor-

ity and majority whip, embraced the majority leader role, which entails figuring out work schedules and setting the agendas.

"We will get to work preparing an agenda that is focused on the struggles hardworking families are facing, including passing bills through the House to reduce inflation, lower energy costs, secure the border and help law-enforcement officers get the tools they need to keep our communities safe from rampant crime," Scal-

## Not since 1870s

Kevin McCarthy's 269-day tenure as House speaker is the shortest in 147 years.

The California Republican served as House speaker from Jan. 7, 2023, until Tuesday, when he was ousted by eight Republicans and 208 Democrats that voted in favor of Rep. Matt Gaetz's (R-Fla.) motion to vacate the speaker's chair.

The only speakers that have served fewer days than McCarthy, of the 55 individuals to hold the position, are Indiana Democratic Rep. Michael C. Kerr — who died in office after 258

days with the gavel in 1876 — and New York Republican Theodore Pomeroy, who served one day after his 1869 election, congressional records show.

Pomeroy was elected speaker to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Speaker Schuyler Colfax (R-Ind.), who stepped down to become Ulysses S. Grant's vice president.

The House last voted on a motion to remove a speaker in 1910, when an unsuccessful attempt was made to oust former Republican Speaker Joe Cannon of Illinois. *Victor Nava*

## DeSantis tut-tuts oust

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis contended that he would not have dethroned Kevin McCarthy the way his detractors did.

"I'm not sure that there's a plan in place on this," DeSantis told Fox News on Tuesday. "When I see the Republican congressman pointing out that there's a lot of fundraising going on around that, you know, that makes me uncomfortable."

Before McCarthy was booted, Rep. Garret Graves (R-La.) castigated Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Fla.) for fundraising off the de-

bacle during a fiery exchange on the House floor.

"I think when you're doing things, you need to be doing it because it's the right thing to do," DeSantis added. "It shouldn't be done with an eye towards trying to generate lists or trying to generate fundraising. And so, that is not the way I would operate."

DeSantis has chafed with McCarthy in the past. "I was one of the guys that opposed McCarthy before it was cool," he quipped. *Ryan King*

### What happens next?

**Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) lost his position as speaker of the House Tuesday after a resolution led by Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Fla.) passed 216-210 — with Gaetz and seven other Republicans joining 208 Democrats. The chamber must now elect a new speaker before it can move forward with any other business.**

#### Temporary speaker replaces McCarthy

Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC), a staunch McCarthy ally, has been appointed speaker pro tempore and will oversee the House until a permanent speaker is elected.

McHenry was chosen because his name topped a list of replacements that McCarthy was required to provide the House clerk in January.

As speaker pro tempore, McHenry will only have the power to recess the House, adjourn the chamber and recognize nominations for the vacant speakership.

#### An unprecedented moment

In the 234-year history of the House of Representatives, lawmakers removing and replacing a House speaker had never been done.

The House last voted on a motion to remove a speaker in 1910, when an attempt was made to oust then-Speaker Joe Cannon (R-Ill.) It was defeated.

#### When will the House vote on a permanent speaker?

Following the vote to remove McCarthy, McHenry recessed the chamber "subject to the call of the chair," meaning lawmakers can reconvene at any time.

During a Tuesday night meeting of the Republican conference, McHenry announced he planned to keep the House out until next week, with a candidate forum to be held next Tuesday, Oct. 10, and an election by the full House to be held Wednesday, Oct. 11.

Whenever the House reconvenes, lawmakers can nominate any individual they wish for the speaker position, followed by a roll call vote.

House members are not bound to vote solely for nominated individuals, and the winner must win by a simple majority of those who vote for a candidate (meaning "present" votes lower the threshold of support needed).

McCarthy was elected speaker early on the morning of Jan. 7 after the most rounds of voting since 1859.

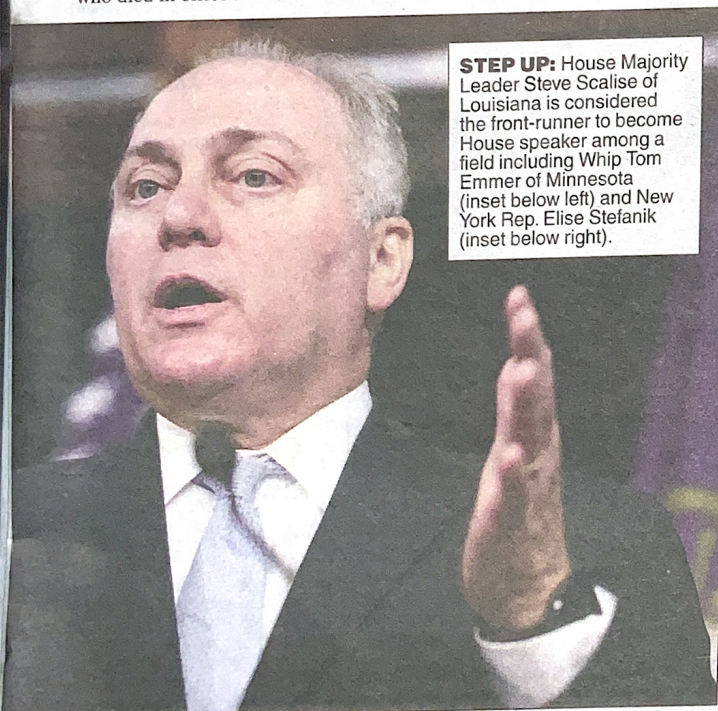
#### Which Republicans could be nominated for the speakership?

Gaetz has reportedly floated House Majority Whip Tom Emmer (R-Minn.), House Rules Committee chairman Tom Cole (R-Okla.) and House Budget Committee chairman Jodey Arrington (R-Texas) as potential successors to McCarthy.

Gaetz also noted Monday that he thinks "very highly" of House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-La.), who announced in August that he was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a type of blood cancer.

"I would probably vote for Steve Scalise," Gaetz said of the 57-year-old lawmaker, while adding that there are probably 100 members of the Republican caucus that he would support.

Rep. Tim Burchett (R-Tenn.), who voted in favor of ousting McCarthy, suggested on Monday Rep. Chip Roy (R-Texas) would also make a good speaker. It's unclear if any of those potential candidates would put themselves forward.



**STEP UP:** House Majority Leader Steve Scalise of Louisiana is considered the front-runner to become House speaker among a field including Whip Tom Emmer of Minnesota (inset below left) and New York Rep. Elise Stefanik (inset below right).

Scalise said of how his diagnosis will impact his work on Capitol Hill.

### Also in the running

Who could challenge Scalise for the speakership?

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"Kevin McCarthy will NOT be running again as Speaker. I nominate Donald J. Trump for Speaker of the House," Nehls tweeted.

Rep. Tim Burchett (R-Tenn.), who voted in favor of ousting McCarthy, floated Rep. Chip Roy (R-Texas).

House GOP Conference Chairwoman Elise Stefanik (R-NY) is another name likely to emerge. Stefanik is the highest-ranking GOP woman in Congress and ally to Trump, the 2024 Republican presidential primary front-runner. It's unclear if any of those potential candidates would put themselves forward.

Congressional lawmakers have been advised that there will not be any votes for the remainder of the week.

~The GOP conference will hold a candidate forum on Oct. 10 and an election by the full House is slated to take place on Oct. 11.~

Lawmakers can nominate any individual they wish for the speaker position, followed by a roll-call vote.

~House members are not bound to vote solely for nominated individuals, and the winner must win by a simple majority of those who vote for a candidate (meaning "present" votes lower the threshold of support needed).~

## to pick up the gavel

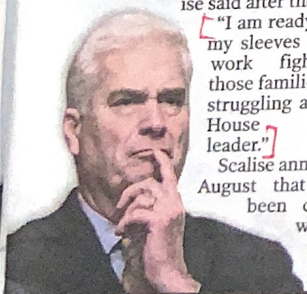
ise said after the vote. **"I am ready to roll up my sleeves and get to work fighting for those families who are struggling as the new House majority leader."**

Scalise announced in August that he had been diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a

type of blood cancer.

The congressman described the cancer as "very treatable" and said that he had already begun the treatment, which he noted will continue "for the next several months."

"I expect to work through this period and intend to return to Washington, continuing my work as majority leader and serving the people of Louisiana's 1st Congressional District,"



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"All the News  
That's Fit to Print"

# The New York Times

LATE EDITION

Today, sunny, a great day to be outside, high 82. Tonight, mainly clear, above-average temperatures, low 62. Tomorrow, cooler, mostly sunny, high 76. Weather map, Page A20.

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## McCarthy First to Be Removed as Speaker



MAANSI SRIVASTAVA/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Representative Kevin McCarthy, center, after the House voted on Tuesday to vacate the speakership. There is no clear replacement.

### Republican Hard-Liners Send House Into Chaos After a Fierce Debate

By CATIE EDMONDSON

WASHINGTON — The House voted on Tuesday to oust Kevin McCarthy from the speakership, a move without precedent that left the chamber without a leader and plunged it into chaos.

After a far-right challenge to Mr. McCarthy's leadership, eight G.O.P. hard-liners joined Democrats to strip the California Republican of the speaker's gavel. The 216-to-210 vote reflected the deep polarization in Congress and raised questions about who, if anyone, could muster the support to govern an increasingly unruly House G.O.P. majority.

"The office of speaker of the House of the United States House of Representatives is hereby declared vacant," Representative Steve Womack, Republican of Arkansas, a McCarthy ally who presided over the chamber during the vote, declared after banging the gavel to finalize the result.

Soon after, Mr. McCarthy told Republicans behind closed doors that he would not seek to reclaim the post, ending a tumultuous nine months as speaker. Republicans said they would leave Washington until next week, with no clear path to finding a new speaker of the House.

"I don't regret standing up for choosing governance over grievance," Mr. McCarthy said at a news conference after the meeting. "It is my responsibility. It is my job. I do not regret negotiating; our government is designed to find compromise."

It was the culmination of bitter Republican divisions that have festered all year, and capped a power struggle between Mr. McCarthy and members of a far-right faction who tried to block his as-

cent to the speakership in January. They have tormented him ever since, trying to stymie his efforts to keep the nation from defaulting on its debt and ultimately rebelling over his decision over the weekend to turn to Democrats for help in keeping the government from shutting down.

Before the vote, a surreal Republican-against-Republican debate played out on the House floor. Members of the hard-right clutch of rebels disparaged their own speaker and verbally sparred with Mr. McCarthy's defenders, who repeatedly accused the hard-liners of sowing chaos to raise

#### How the House Voted

	DEM.	REP.	TOTAL
Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/>	208	8	216
No <input type="radio"/>	0	210	210

THE NEW YORK TIMES

their own political profiles. Democrats sat and watched silently.

"He put his political neck on the line, knowing this day was coming, to do the right thing," said Representative Tom Cole, Republican of Oklahoma and a McCarthy ally who sought unsuccessfully to kill the move to oust him.

"Think long and hard before you plunge us into chaos," Mr. Cole implored the speaker's detractors, "because that's where we're headed if we vacate the speakership."

But Mr. McCarthy's critics, led by Representative Matt Gaetz, the far-right Republican from Florida, savaged him for what they characterized as a failure to wring

Continued on Page A12

### Asylum Quest Led to Choice: Capture or Fire

By MATINA STEVIS-GRIDNEFF

AVAS, Greece — In August, a group of 18 Syrian asylum seekers crossing into Europe found themselves trapped between the Greek police and a wildfire.

"The fire has reached us," one of

### G.O.P. Backs Idea of Attacking Mexican Cartels

This article is by Jonathan Swan, Maggie Haberman, Charlie Savage and Emiliano Rodríguez Mega.

The first time Donald Trump talked privately about shooting missiles into Mexico to take out drug labs, as far as his former aides can recall, was in early 2020.

And the first time those comments became public was when his second defense secretary, Mark T. Esper, wrote in his mem-

### Once Trump's Fantasy, Military Intervention Is Taken Seriously

idea, some Republicans publicly welcomed word that Mr. Trump had wanted to use military force against the drug cartels on Mexican soil — and without the consent

On the presidential campaign trail and on the G.O.P. debate stage in California last week, nearly every Republican candidate has been advocating versions of a plan to send U.S. Special Operations troops into Mexican territory to kill or capture drug cartel members and destroy their labs and distribution centers.

On Capitol Hill, Republican lawmakers have drafted a broad authorization for the use of military

### Militants Stage

# McCarthy Becomes First Ousted Speaker as Chaos Grips the House



Officers guarding Representative Kevin McCarthy's office. Before the vote, he told Republicans in a closed-door meeting that he had no regrets about his speakership.

## To Fill Vacancy, Interim Speaker Takes Up Gavel

By DANIEL VICTOR  
and CATIE EDMONDSON

With the House leaderless after a right-wing faction ousted Kevin McCarthy from the speakership on Tuesday, Representative Patrick McHenry of North Carolina will temporarily take up the gavel as interim speaker.

Mr. McHenry, 47, was elected to Congress in 2004 at age 29, a rabble-rousing presence on the House floor and on cable news shows. He was chief deputy whip to former Speaker John A. Boehner of Ohio, who once predicted that Mr. McHenry would one day become speaker.



But over the last 18 years, Mr. McHenry, above, has had a more low-profile role in the House, working behind the scenes and earning a reputation among other lawmakers for wonkishness.

"What changed for me was once I slowed down enough to respect the process and to respect the people that I served with in the institution," Mr. McHenry told the News & Observer of Raleigh, N.C., in 2017.

Among the potential candidates to succeed Mr. McCarthy, Mr. McHenry is the only one who voted to certify the 2020 presidential election. On Saturday, he voted with Democrats for the stopgap spending measure to keep the government open.

Mr. McHenry, though, seems unlikely to take on the role permanently. He chose not to run for a leadership role last year, deciding to lead the financial services committee instead.

He is close to Mr. McCarthy, and in May helped to negotiate the debt limit deal that so infuriated the hard-liners who deposed Mr. McCarthy, averting a default. Mr. McHenry spoke in his defense on the House floor on Tuesday, crediting the former speaker with creating a "record of success" for conservatives.

Before Tuesday's vote, Mr. McHenry argued that Democrats should think long-term and support Mr. McCarthy's bid to remain speaker.

"I think we will have a far more functional House with his speakership going forward than any other person," Mr. McHenry said on Monday.

### 8 Who Ousted McCarthy

ANDY BIGGS Arizona

KEN BUCK Colorado

TIM BURCHETT Tennessee

ELI CRANE Arizona

MATT GAETZ Florida

BOB GOOD Virginia

NANCY MACE South Carolina

MATT ROSENDALE Montana

## With 216-210 Vote, Far-Right Faction Prevails in a Power Struggle That Lasted Months

From Page A1

steeper spending cuts out of the Biden administration and a lack of leadership.

"Chaos is Speaker McCarthy," Mr. Gaetz declared. "Chaos is somebody who we cannot trust with their word."

Most of the eight Republicans who voted to remove McCarthy had antagonized him ever since he became speaker. Along with Mr. Gaetz, they were: Representatives Andy Biggs of Arizona, Ken Buck of Colorado, Tim Burchett of Tennessee, Eli Crane of Arizona, Bob Good of Virginia, Nancy Mace of South Carolina and Matt Rosendale of Montana.

Only a few of them rose on the House floor ahead of the vote to list their grievances against Mr. McCarthy, chief among them that he had relied on Democratic votes to push through two bills they opposed — one to prevent the nation from defaulting on its debt for the first time in history and another, over the weekend, to avert a government shutdown.

"The speaker fought through 15 votes in January to become

Reporting was contributed by Luke Broadwater, Carl Hulse, Kayla Guo, Karoun Demirjian, Annie Karni and Robert Jimison.

speaker, but was only willing to fight through one failed C.R. before surrendering to the Democrats on Saturday," Mr. Good said, referring to a measure known as a continuing resolution for a stopgap spending bill. "We need a speaker who will fight for something, anything besides just staying or becoming speaker."

A tense scene played out on the floor as lawmakers voted to oust the speaker the same way they vote to elect one: rising one by one from their seats on the House floor in an alphabetical roll call by conducted by the clerk.

In the end, Mr. McCarthy was doomed by just eight members of his own party and a united caucus of Democrats, all of whom voted to dethrone him.

The vote left the House paralyzed until a successor is chosen. That promised to tee up another potentially messy speaker election at a time when Congress has a little more than 40 days to avert another potential government shutdown.

House Republicans met on Tuesday night after the vote to discuss how to move forward. Discussions on the future of the conference were being led by Representative Patrick T. McHenry of North Carolina. Mr. McCarthy had named Mr. McHenry first on a list

of potential interim speakers in the event of a calamity or vacancy, but he does not have power to run the chamber — only to preside over the election of a new speaker.

There is no clear replacement for Mr. McCarthy, though some names reliably come up in conversations with Republicans, including Mr. McHenry and Mr. Cole as

### Another messy fight may loom over the search for a successor.

well as the No. 2 and No. 3 House Republicans, Representatives Steve Scalise of Louisiana and Tom Emmer of Minnesota.

"I think there's plenty of people who can step up and do the job," said Mr. Burchett, adding that he did not have anyone in mind.

But on Tuesday, Republicans were scattering to their districts around the country to regroup, with no clear strategy for how to move forward.

Mr. McCarthy did not answer questions from reporters after his ouster, striding quickly off the floor after receiving a barrage of

handshakes and hugs from his allies. In the hours before the vote, Mr. McCarthy, an inveterate optimist who prides himself on never giving up, was characteristically sanguine, defending his decision to work with Democrats to avert a government shutdown, which precipitated the bid to remove him.

"If you throw a speaker out that has 99 percent of their conference, that kept government open and paid the troops, I think we're in a really bad place for how we're going to run Congress," he said on Tuesday morning. In a closed-door meeting under the Capitol, he told Republicans he had no regrets about his speakership, and was interrupted several times by raucous standing ovations.

In the days leading up to the vote, Democrats had wrestled with whether to help Mr. McCarthy survive, or at least to stay out of the effort to oust him.

But their disdain for Mr. McCarthy ultimately overrode any political will they had to save him, and in a closed-door meeting on Tuesday morning, Representative Hakeem Jeffries of New York, the minority leader, instructed fellow Democrats not to do so, citing Republicans' "unwillingness to break from MAGA extremism."

That meeting, which was billed

TOM BRENNER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES