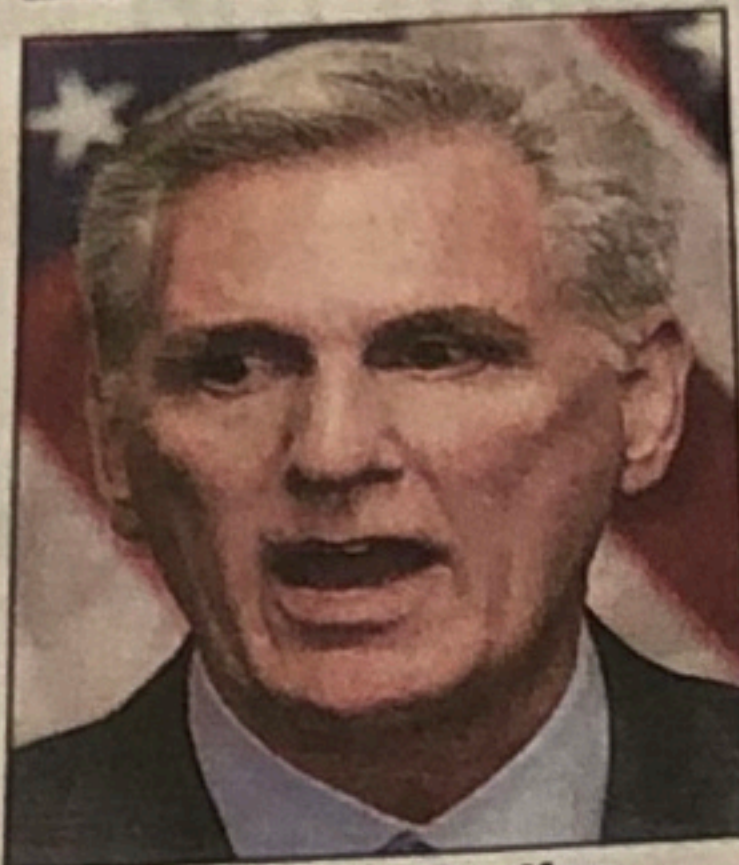


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A Coup in the House: End of McCarthy's Reign

THE ISSUE: The House's vote to remove Rep. Kevin McCarthy as speaker on Tuesday.



Kevin McCarthy

•I watched the press conference that ousted Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy gave, and did not hear anything that warranted his removal ("Gaetz of hell," Sept. 4).

When working for the American people and working across the aisle with Democrats are grounds for dismissal, then the two-party system we are stuck with has outlived its usefulness.

We, the people, are paying for this self-serving, agenda-driven, supposedly representative government that is before us.

If we truly were to drain the swamp of the corrupt leadership in government, our nation's aging sewer systems could not sustain the overflow.

If there was ever a need for a third party, it is now.

Tony Giametta
Oceanside

•McCarthy found out that when you make a deal with the devil, he will eventually come for your soul.

McCarthy, a Reagan conservative from California, wanted the job so badly that he negotiated an impossible deal, giving any one member the power to bring a vote for the speaker's removal. That will haunt future speakers unless it is amended.

The eight Judas Iscariots who teamed with the Democrats to oust him should hang their heads in shame. I agree with McCarthy that the coup, led by Rep. Matt Gaetz, was personal.

Anthony Scro
Whitestone

•The historic ouster of McCarthy is symbolic of the dysfunction of our government.

Simultaneously, it's also part of a checks-and-balances system, which is triggered when a govern-

ment is reckless.

There comes a point when we can no longer tolerate nor authorize exorbitant spending and decision-making, which lacks regard for the greater good of America. Clearly, the agenda in Washington is inconsistent with the needs of average Americans.

Fortunately, some dissenters in Washington can put the brakes on this runaway train. It's time to tighten our belts and practice purposeful discretionary spending. The party is over.

Ronald Frank
West Orange, NJ

•As a lifelong Republican, I am so fed up with my party.

The Democratic leadership is despicable and has brought this country to ruin, but it always sticks together. The Republicans are constantly working against what's good for America by not uniting to get the government's work, like securing our border, done.

We keep losing elections because of poor leadership. McCarthy was doing the best he could with such a small majority, but these few rogues were grandstanding and wouldn't compromise for the good of

this country. Vote them out, as they are doing nothing but following their own ambitions.

Joann Mirone
Old Greenwich, Conn.

•I wonder if our country is circling the drain.

Consider this week's news: For the first time in American history, the House speakership has been vacated, and a small band of selfish and unpatriotic Republicans have succeeded in creating chaos.

The former president is in court facing serious charges about his finances — and is using this as a media spectacle to bolster his candidacy.

The current president's son went to court to plead not guilty to federal gun charges, while his father's approval ratings remain well below water.

Most Americans believe the country is headed in the wrong direction. Where does this all end? To say we are ripe for autocracy is not an overstatement. Witness the history of how fascist governments seize power.

Richard Cherwitz
Austin, Texas

•Had he kept his promises, particularly holding a vote on term limits maybe McCarthy would have kept his position.

Having term limits would eliminate the Joe Biden of this world. These career do-nothing politicians who continue "serve" mainly because of name recognition only.

If all politicians were held to the same standards as the speaker would all be better.

Don Wh
Cross

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