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Nick Meglin, 82, a Mad Magazine Mainstay, Is Dead

By Richard Sandomir

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Nick Meglin, a top editor at Mad magazine who for many years was the chief barometer of whether the publication's silly and satirical humor had gone too far — or not far enough — died on June 2 at his home in Durham, N.C. He was 82.

His daughter, Diane Meglin, said the cause was a heart attack.

Mr. Meglin spent nearly a half-century at Mad, from its early heyday as an outrageous force in American culture to an era when it struggled for relevance amid the rise of increasingly daring humor outlets, like National Lampoon, "Saturday Night Live" and The Onion, many of whose writers had been influenced by Mad.

To Mr. Meglin, though, Mad's mission had remained the same over the years, regardless of its competition.

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