

MATH

**...sometimes it
can be dangerous.**

A brief history of infinity (with
a focus on sequences and series).
All are welcome. Pizza will be served.
Tuesday, 10 February, 2009

2:30-3:30pm
HB 227
Colin Carroll

Zeno of Elea.
Still famous after all these years for
questioning the ability to walk from
point A to point B. Go figure.
Reportedly bit off his own tongue
to spite a tyrant (to be fair, Zeno tried
to kill the tyrant first).

Hypatia of Alexandria.
Early (the earliest?) prominent female
mathematician. Was dragged through the
streets, flayed with oyster shells and set
on fire, for being a pagan.

Socrates.
Killed with hemlock for corrupting
the minds of the youth of Athens.

Archimedes of Syracuse.
Voiced ideas about infinity that held
sway for hundreds of years. Fought wars...
with MATH. Also, with fire. Killed for trying
to finish solving a math problem.

Euclid of Alexandria.
Father of geometry. Also possibly
included in Raphael's famous painting
School of Athens, though some contend
it is actually Archimedes (see above).

Pythagoras of Samos.
Killed a man in Reno, just to watch
him die*. Also drowned a man for
revealing that some numbers
weren't (aren't) fractions.