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).

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

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.

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.

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.

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).

*Not actually true.