

# Today in Math History...

**-6 October 1570**

**Gerolamo Cardano imprisoned.** He was imprisoned for 87 days on charges of “*casting a horoscope of Christ.*” He spent the remaining five years of his life in Rome under the eye of a suspicious pope who nonetheless gave him a pension.



*Following his professorship at the University of Pavia, which he had to resign after his son's conviction for murder, Cardano was appointed professor of medicine at the University of Bologna (1562). However, here he again found difficulties and was jailed in 1570 on a charge of heresy. Upon his release he was deprived of his university chair and left for Rome. His fame had undoubtedly mitigated his punishment, and at Rome he was allowed to stay in the College of Physicians and was given a pension by Pope Gregory XIII. Cardano died in Rome on Sept. 21, 1576.*