

1077-D5-2453 **J Alfredo Jimenez*** (jaj4@psu.edu), 76 University Drive, Hazleton, PA 18202. *Team Activities for the First Day of Class Using a Computer Algebra System*. Preliminary report.

I would like to present an activity that I use the first day of class to create an environment where students work collaboratively in teams, review some basic mathematical concepts, and use the computer algebra system Mathematica to produce some images, at the same time that they learn some basic commands. I have used this activity in calculus or linear algebra classes (first or second year level). The problems that I pose are simple: Draw the Mitsubishi logo, the Texaco logo, and a tetrahedron. These problems are easy to state, very visual, and yet, very challenging for students at this level. The activity is well received by the students, who normally are fully engaged in solving the problems, brainstorming, and sharing their thoughts. (Received September 22, 2011)