**Proposal**

**SuperComputing challenge 2017**

**Team ID: CHS33**

**School Name: Capital High**

**Project Title:** The Spread of Red Imported Fire Ants

**Definition of the problem:**

This project will look at how fast a Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) population will spread in a controlled environment and what precautions we can take to prevent the issue of their spreading. RIFA, ( Solenopsis invicta) are a very invasive and destructive species of ants that dominate the areas they inhabit due to the overwhelming population and aggressiveness.

**Area of science:**

The area of science for this project is zoology. Zoology is the scientific study of the distribution, structure, physiology, classification, and behavior of animals. As you will see many of these topics come up in our project.

**Purpose of our project:**

The purpose of this project is to look into how an invasive species can spread and grow. This project can give us insight on how to contain or control other invasive animals; furthermore, this project will show how an invasive species can cause damage to people, farmlands, and other local animals.

**solving our problem:**

We plan on using programs such as Excel, NetLogo, and Python to illustrate and describe an invasive ant species. We will code data using research that we have collected. Our group will demonstrate and observe a colony of RIFA in a controlled environment.

**Team:**

**Oscar Lopez**

**Ryan Romero**

**Elise Paul**

**Alyssa Huerta**

**Sponsoring Teacher(s): Irina Cislaru & B. Teterycz**

**Project Mentor(s):**

**We hope to meet someone at the kick-off.**