

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2002 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) **Project Number** Justine M. Chaney 22471 **Project Title Using Photometry to Measure Vesta's Rotation Abstract Objectives/Goals** The objective of this project was to see if the rotational period of Vesta can be ned by using photometry. Methods/Materials The method used was photometry, and the materials were: - 14" telescope at Mt. Wilson - CCD Soft (computer application) - TheSky Astronomy software - Microsoft Excel Results The project was successful; magnitudes were obtained and graphed, a light curve was made, and the rotational period was determined. Conclusions/Discussion The project was successful, but there were problems along the way, such as software problems. If I were to take this project further, I would try to obtain a full rotational period; my results only equal about half of one because of limited access to the Mt. Wilson telescope **Summary Statement** Vesta's rotational period can be determined using photometry. **Help Received** My science advisor Joe Wise showed me how to use the software, how to do photometry, and drove me to Mt. Wilson. He allowed me to access the computers at New Roads School. Barrett Duff, the science advisor to Telescopes In Education (T.I.E.), operated the