



## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### MONROE WINS BID FOR 2018, 2019 DIXIE MAJORS WORLD SERIES

**Monroe, LA**— Dixie Baseball has elected to return to Ouachita Parish for the upcoming 2018 and 2019 Dixie Major World Series tournaments. The events will be held at ULM and the forthcoming Sterlington Sports Complex, expected to open in December 2017.

The Dixie Majors World Series will take place in August of both years. In 2019, the Dixie Majors World Series tournament will also be accompanied by the 2019 Dixie Pre-Majors World Series tournament. This totals 3 new Dixie Baseball World Series tournaments slated to be held in Ouachita Parish.

“Our board unanimously approved the bids offered by the Monroe-West Monroe CVB. The CVB in partnership with the local communities will provide great hospitality and outstanding facilities for our participating teams and the many visitors to the area,” J. Sandy Jones, Commissioner/CEO of Dixie Boys Baseball, said.

The bid was placed by the Monroe-West Monroe Convention and Visitors Bureau (MWMCVB) in their efforts to continuously bring new events and visitors to the area. Each tournament has an estimated economic impact of \$444,000.

“Sports tourism is alive and well in Ouachita Parish,” Scott Bruscato, senior vice president of sales at the MWMCVB, said. “Both events will bring 24 teams to town including 22 state champions and 2 host teams along with an estimated total number of tourism visitors of over 1,000 family, friends, and spectators.”

The 52-acre Sterlington Sports Complex will have 5 high school regulation baseball fields, 5 high school regulation softball fields, 3 soccer fields, tennis facilities, and a man-made lake.

“The Town of Sterlington is excited and honored to partner with Dixie Baseball and the Monroe-West Monroe CVB to host this wonderful event at our new sports complex,” Sterlington Mayor Vern Breland said.

The recently concluded 2017 Dixie Majors World Series tournament was hosted in Monroe at ULM and Embanato Field.

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