



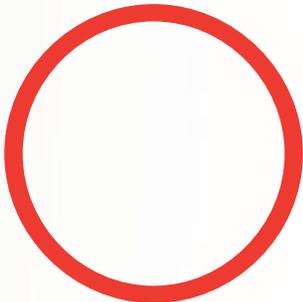
A SPORTING GOOD

TIME

World Series text by Geary Mason, contributing writer
Golf Tournament text by Tom Gunther, contributing writer
Photos by Brandon E. Weghorst



The New Orleans Alumni Association reached a milestone this summer with one of the most highly touted events, one that grew from a small field of local chapters into a nationwide event. This summer, the ΣAE World Series celebrated its 25th anniversary. More than two decades after it started, the tournament continues to allow brothers to venture to the Big Easy for camaraderie both on the field and in the town.



Over the past 25 years, the event enjoyed its high point and had 32 all-ΣAE teams in 1993 for an average of 20 teams per year. The event has twice been the centerpiece activity of the national convention both in 1993 and 2009. And the World Series is open to any active or alumni team on which every player must be a member.



In 2010, 20 teams competed for the coveted title of Eminent Supreme Champions on a hot summer New Orleans weekend. Province Theta Archon James Irwin threw out the ceremonial first pitch – resulting in a perfect strike – to begin play after all attendees sang “The Star Spangled Banner” in unison. Competition started on Friday night under the lights as the defending champion Southwest Texas Alums teams got warmed up with a 23-0 thrashing of the host-committee team, the Rejects. Across the softball complex, the Southern Mississippi Alums whipped the host committee’s other team, the Rejects II, by a score of 20-2. The umpire had all he could handle as tournament newcomers from the active chapter at Cal State-San Marcos defeated the powerhouse alumni

team from Christian Brothers University 12-11 in a stunning upset. The Cal State-San Marcos chapter had been in New Orleans for more than a week doing post-Katrina home rebuilding and acclimating themselves to the Louisiana summer humidity. The always spirited chapter from Nicholls State University from down the road in Thibodeaux fielded three teams in the event, and its A team cruised to an 18-1 victory over the Southern Mississippi actives. James Irwin led the Nicholls Alums to an 18-10 win over the state rival Tulane chapter. Later that night, the Southern Mississippi Alums upset last year’s runner-up Troy University Alums 17-12 in a shootout. Steve Birk’s always tough South Florida Alums team beat the local Tulane Alums 17-7, and then the Nicholls State Alums 14-6 to advance to the quarterfinals.

Teams returned to the field on Saturday morning with consolation-round games going until noon, when the quarterfinals began. Defending champion Southwest Texas Alums took another step toward a repeat beating as they whopped the West Florida Alums 23-10 and then beat the South Florida Alums 17-8 in the semifinals. The strong Nicholls State A team woke up the Cal State-San Marcos squad 15-3 but then lost a nail-biter to the Southern Miss Alums 4-3 in the semis. In the consolation round, the San Marcos team eliminated last year’s runner-ups from Troy University 6-1 and proved that it was in the hunt. The Nicholls A team then knocked out San Marcos 13-9 in a game that had the lead change three times. In the winner’s bracket, defending champion Southwest Texas Alums team captain Geoff Harris fired up his team in the finals to defeat the Southern Miss Alums 8-0, and a repeat championship looked very likely. The Southern Miss Alums then dropped

ΣΑΕ

WORLD SERIES

First Place

Southwest Texas Alums

Second Place

Southern Mississippi Alums

Third Place

Nicholls State A team

Tournament MVP

Jason Fannin
(Southwest Texas Alums)

Steve Birk Dedication Award

Ryan McCann
(Nicholls State Alums)

Most Improved

Southern Mississippi Alums

Farthest Distance Traveled

Cal State-San Marcos

ΣΑΕ Spirit Award

Cal State-San Marcos

Best Dressed Award

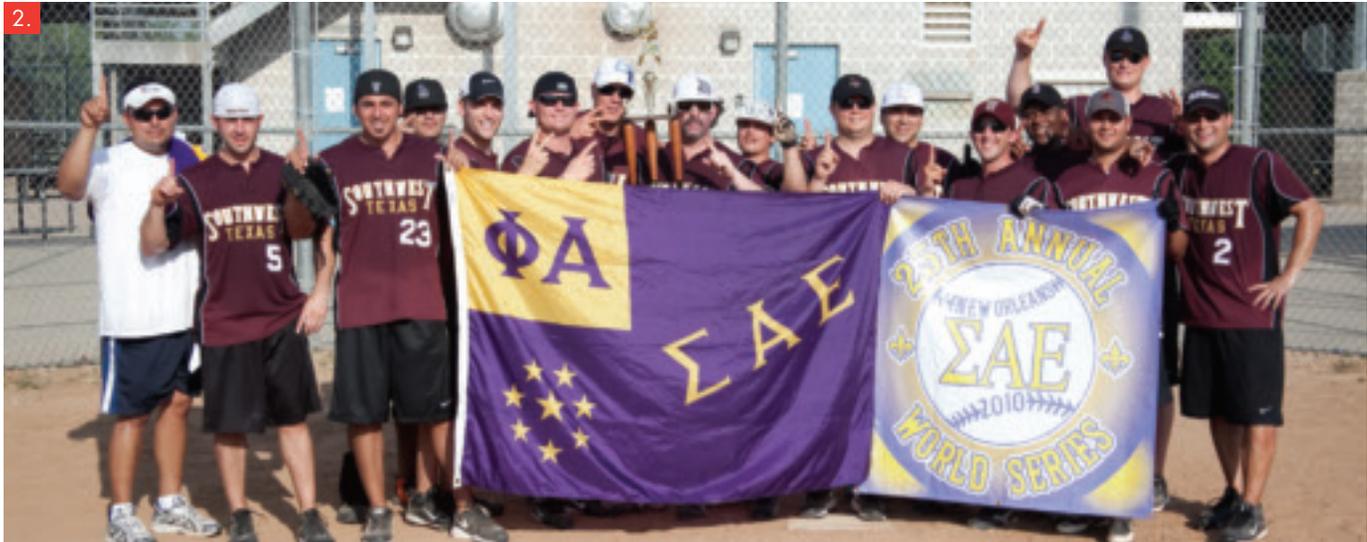
Southwest Texas Alums

Last Place Award

Nicholls State B team

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1. Brad Swan (Southern Mississippi '07) takes a crack at the pitch from the Southwest Texas Alums pitcher. The teams played each other during the championship game.
2. The Southwest Texas Alums, now a regular team in the series, took home the first-place trophy and the coveted title of Eminent Supreme Champions during this year's play.
3. Hunter Rolling (Troy '02) watches his teammate take a swing during one of the first games of the tournament on a typical hot, humid New Orleans afternoon.
4. Curtis McGinity (Tulane '10) contemplates home as Jordan Orgeron (Nicholls State '09) and Ryan McCann (Nicholls State '08) play defense.
5. Chris Broom (Southern Mississippi '02) played on the Southern Miss Alums team, which has made repeat, regular appearances at the World Series.



to the consolation bracket and won and got another chance at the Southwest Texas Alums but would have to win twice because of the tournament's double-elimination format. Harris and his Southwest Texas team would not be denied a repeat as they scored early and often en route to a 9-3 victory over the Southern Miss Alums to become the 25th Annual ΣΑΕ World Series champions. The team voted to give the tournament MVP award to fellow chapter alumnus Jason Fannin, who could not make the

trip at the last minute because of the untimely passing of his father.

After the softball tournament, everyone ventured to New Orleans' historic French Quarter for a post-tournament reception in keeping with its strong tradition. To see all the photos of the 2010 tournament, as well as information and scores from the World Series' history, visit www.saeworldseries.com.