



Wichita State University

Athletic Media Relations

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tues., Jan. 22, 2008

KOCH INDUSTRIES, INC. AND WSU HOST OPEN HOUSE & AUTOGRAPH SESSION TO CELEBRATE LOWER CONCOURSE IMPROVEMENTS AT CHARLES KOCH ARENA

(Wichita, Kan.) – Koch Industries, Inc. and Wichita State University invite the public to meet the Shocker men's basketball coaches and team, and preview improvements to the lower level concourse at an open house at Charles Koch Arena on Sunday, February 10 from 3 - 5 p.m.

The event, co-sponsored by KWCH-TV, is free and open to the public and will feature the team's only autograph session this season. Guided tours of the concourse, including locker rooms, weight room and media areas, will provide an opportunity to see a part of the facility typically off limits to the public. The open house will feature refreshments and prizes. Head Coach Gregg Marshall and players will sign autographs on the basketball court from 3 – 4 p.m. Channel 12 sports director Bruce Haertl will be on hand for photographs with fans.

"The Next Level Project," made possible by a \$137,000 donation from Koch Industries, Inc., includes a new full-length all-sports mural, tunnel graphics, team image light boxes, ceiling banners and colorful photo displays outside each locker room. Image Resources of Wichita, the same company that designed and produced the interior murals and banners throughout the main concourse of Charles Koch Arena, also designed and produced the lower concourse improvements.

Funding for the lower concourse project marks continuing support from Koch Industries, which donated \$6 million for major renovation of the arena. "This upgrade expresses our appreciation to WSU student athletes for the contribution they make to our community," said Dave Robertson, president of Koch Industries. "We're pleased to add to the overall quality of the arena and show our continued support for the university."

The lower concourse is used daily by coaches, staff and WSU's 270 student athletes. The project was completed in eight weeks, adding color and visual interest to what had been a simple, light gray décor.

"It looks absolutely fantastic," said Jim Schaus, WSU director of athletics. "The project truly brings the colors, image and Shocker history created throughout the building to this very important area of the arena. We are thankful to Koch Industries for their continued support. Fans will enjoy seeing it and participating in the open house activities."

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