Walk into Eck Stadium and you know immediately that you’ve entered one of the most impressive college baseball venues in the country. It didn’t happen by accident. Over a 30-year period beginning in 1985, Wichita State University and its valued alumni and donors have invested the resources to create an outstanding complex for athletes and spectators alike. The most recent addition: an LED video scoreboard that, at 1,300 square feet, is one of the five largest in all of college baseball.

Raise $2 million to complete the final phase of a five-part development plan for Eck Stadium. This last stage focuses on enhancing player performance, not only for student athletes in the baseball program but also for those in softball, tennis and golf.

The centerpiece of the Eck Stadium project will be a 10,000-square-foot Performance Facility to benefit both the baseball and softball teams. Student athletes will have their own strength and conditioning center to meet their specialized needs, a feature that will enhance WSU’s ability to recruit high-caliber players. The men’s and women’s tennis and golf programs also will have access to the strength and conditioning center.

Currently, WSU’s baseball and softball players — who represent the second and third largest teams in WSU’s athletic program — must visit Koch Arena when they want to work out with cardio equipment and weights, or receive whirlpool and physical therapy services. This system not only disrupts their training and practices, but also overloads the capabilities of the Koch Arena facility.

The Performance Facility also will house a locker room for baseball players, media room for viewing game videos, player lounge area and offices for coaches and staff. It will provide access to and from the Bombardier Learjet Practice Facility, as well as to the Shocker dugout on the Eck Stadium playing field.

As part of the project, the Shocker dugout will be moved from the first-base side of the field to the third-base side. It will be enlarged and recessed to enhance safety.

Finally, the baseball program’s ticket office will be enlarged and remodeled.
The atmosphere created by our stadium is unmatched by almost any other in Division I college baseball. Fans come to games knowing that they are watching a game in one of the premier venues in the country.

— Shocker pitcher Connor Lungwitz, sophomore

Looking into the monstrous grandstand from the field, especially when we have a lot of fans, is priceless. It gives the athletes something to play for that is bigger than themselves.

— Shocker pitcher Sam Tewes, drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals in 2016