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USM Library Receives Boost Toward Excellence

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FINISHING THE JOB

USM library receives boost toward excellence

● Al and Judy Glickman make a gift that will live forever.

The heartbeat of any great university is its library. The University of Southern Maine made a bold leap into its future by acquiring the old T.A. Huston Bakery building in 1990 and renovating it into a state-of-the-art university library. A state bond issue only covered the first four floors, however. The top three floors have remained as hollow shells since the library's opening in 1993, awaiting either more state money or a financial angel.

This week, the angel – two of them, in fact – appeared. Al and Judy Glickman will give more than \$1 million, they told the University of Maine System board on Monday, toward completing the library. The first \$1 million is intended as the lead gift in an estimated \$3 million renovation of the top three floors. The rest will go toward critically needed books and periodical subscriptions.

The university thus is primed to take its second great leap into academic



File photo

USM library: Heartbeat of university.

excellence in recent years. Under the innovative leadership of President Richard Pattenau, it already is on its way to acquiring a national reputation in higher education. It now will have a library of a stature to match its dreams.

The Glickmans' record of community philanthropy is inspiring. Their mark is seen on virtually every modern endeavor to make this a better Greater Portland. Their gift to a great university now ensures there literally never will come an end to the good that they have done.

Portland Press Herald, 5/20/97 p. 8A