Deadline extended one or two weeks for Lewis petition

Efforts to call a grand jury investigation of the Sept. 24 shooting death of Arvid Sherdell Lewis will continue for one or two more weeks, according to Jesse Payne, chairman of the Justice for Lewis Committee.

The committee is circulating petitions requesting a grand jury to investigate the deaths of two black Lincoln men, Elijah Childers and Lewis. Both men were shot last year, Childers by a Lincoln Police Dept. officer and Lewis by a Lancaster County deputy sheriff.

Signatures of 4,828 registered Lancaster County voters must be collected within 90 days after the drive started, and filed with the clerk of the district court to call a grand jury.

Cynthia Grandberry, committee member, said the group originally thought the signatures had to be obtained and filed by Jan. 13. She said the group discovered just before deadline that it could extend the drive.

She said the 90-day period is counted from the date of the first signature filed in the district court. Under state law, she said, the 90-day period can be extended by discarding signatures obtained at the beginning of the drive.

The date of the first signature then would be later.

Payne estimated that if the drive is extended for one week, 1,100 signatures will be discarded.

The petition drive, about 800 signatures short of its goal on Jan. 13, was extended because committee members thought the effort was gaining momentum, Payne said, and the goal could be reached if circulators had more time. Circulators also plan to ask persons whose signatures were discarded to sign again, he said.

Payne said he still thinks the petition drive can be successful. He said if petition circulators continue to get an average of 500 signatures a week and can get 60 to 65 per cent of the discarded signatures, the goal can be met.

However, he added that the drive has lacked reliable petition circulators. He said he thinks the petition's purpose should be of interest to all Lincoln citizens, but few persons have offered their time and support.

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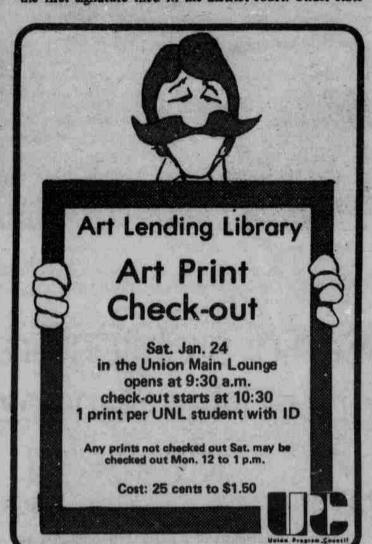
10:00 pm-noon Sun. 840 West "O"

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Human life begins at conception and is continuous, until death.

Journal, California State Medical Assn. sept. 1970

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January 22, 1973, the
Supreme Court ruled that
state laws against abortion
were unconstitutional. On
that date, our nation took a
step backwards.

Concerned Pro-Life Students

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Sunday, January 25, 1976

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