

Hegwood, born 30 years ago Feb. 6, was reported missing after his two roommates came home to find the door to their apartment open. That night a car like Hegwood's careened into another in which three University of Southern Mississippi students were riding, and six months later, a half-brother whom Hegwood had never met was killed in a police shootout in Ontario, Canada; he was carrying Hegwood's identification.

Police don't think Hegwood's half-brother was responsible for his disappearance; they believe that he had stolen some of Hegwood's possessions from the family home in Forest before the disappearance. But the possible connection heightens the mystery, Blackledge said.

The case, which Blackledge has worked on from the beginning, "just kind of follows me," she said. "His family has really suffered, and you think, if he left town, he could at least get in touch with his mother. But he's just gone. The only other possibility is that something happened to him. It's still an active case, but no one knows."

Clipped By:



e1111en58

Sat, Mar 18, 2017