Man, 19, to stand trial in death of son

By LISA REDMOND, Sun Staff

NASHUA -- A dozen freshly cut red roses wrapped in white tissue paper lay next to several small ceramic angels and some tiny Matchbox cars at Devin Logan's headstone at Woodlawn Cemetery.

The headstone, which has an engraving of a sleeping baby, reads: Devin Matthew Logan, December 25, 2004 to June 21, 2005.

"It's been 16 months, and it's still as fresh as if it was yesterday," said Robert Logan, the baby's maternal grandfather. It just pains me every time we go there. I guess I just don't want to let him go."

A few miles away, Andrew Roberts, 19, of Nashua, stood before a judge in Hillsboro County Superior Court yesterday and waived his arraignment on charges of seconddegree murder, perjury and filing a false police



report for the death of his 6-month-old son.

Roberts, a Nashua resident, is the baby's father, and 19-year-old Jessica Logan of Tyngsboro is the mother.

State Assistant Attorney General Karen Huntress and defense attorney Caroline Smith have agreed the case should be ready for trial in June.

In court documents, Roberts, of 16 April Drive, Nashua, is accused of "applying such force to Devin Logan's body so as to cause traumatic and lethal injuries to his brain."

Devin was rushed to the hospital on Father's Day weekend while at his paternal grandparents home in Nashua. He died three days later on June 21, 2005.

Last November, a state medical examiner ruled the cause of death to be child-abuse syndrome with acute injuries. The manner of death was homicide.

Huntress has refused to comment on what triggered Roberts' arrest.

Roberts also is charged with perjury and filing a false police report. He allegedly lied to the grand jury and police, initially blaming his mother, Bernadette Roberts. He later admitted to police that he had shaken the baby.

Roberts continues to be free on \$50,000 cash bail, which his parents posted after he spent three months in jail following his arrest on June 16.

With his release, Roberts must wear an ankle-monitoring device, live with his parents and have no contact with any witnesses in the case, including Jessica Logan and her family.

Robert Logan, Jessica's father, said he is proud of how well his daughter is "holding up." She is working several part-time jobs while attending Middlesex Community College, he said.

He praised the state Attorney General's Office and the Nashua Police Department for their investigation.

As for Roberts, Logan said it is difficult to see the teen, but he doesn't have a problem with him being free on bail, "as long as he stays away from us."

The order includes limiting Roberts' visits to his son's gravestone. He's only allowed to visit the cemetery on Tuesdays, according to court documents.

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