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NEWS RELEASE
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NEWPORTER, SALVE REGINA COLLEGE SOPHOMORE COMPETES IN WEIGHTLIFTING
EVENT AT JUNIOR PAN AMERICAN GAMES

Salve Regina College student Gerry Willis, recently named to the U.S. Junior Weightlifting team, is currently competing in the Junior World Weightlifting Championships in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The event is part of this year's Junior Pan-American Games, and competition will continue through August 12.

Willis, a Newport native, earned a berth on this year's team with a first-place finish in the 181-pound division at the Junior National Weightlifting Championships held in Michigan last March. He was also named outstanding lifter in that meet.

Currently, Willis is ranked second in the country in his class among lifters under 20 years of age, and is seventh among senior weightlifters (no age limit). He holds 12 state weightlifting records and nine New England records, and has been named the outstanding weightlifter in New England for the past three years.

A sophomore at Salve, Willis was recently honored by the Newport City Council. The Council passed a resolution citing his accomplishments and wishing him luck in Brazil.