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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Macey's Bagger Earns High Marks at National Bagging Contest**

Salt Lake City, UT (February 15, 2011) - Andrew Hadlock, a bagger from Macey's grocery store in Sandy, Utah was the second runner up at the National Grocers Association's best bagger competition on February 14, 2011 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

For the past several years, the Macey's organization has sent a team member to compete on the national level after winning the state competition for Utah's top bagger. As a reward for winning, Hadlock received a cash prize and a trophy.

"I'm really excited about participating," said Hadlock. "At Macey's, we work really hard and I'm happy I can represent the state and my store."

During the competition, baggers are judged and receive points in four areas: speed (10 points), proper bag building technique (10 points), distribution of weight between bags (5 points), style, attitude and appearance (5 points). In recent years, the competition has utilized recyclable bags instead of the traditional paper or plastic.

Hadlock, who has worked at Macey's for several years, received especially high marks on his bagging technique as well as weight distribution.

"The coaching and mentoring our team members receive is phenomenal," said Dave Wirthlin, president of Associated Retail Stores. "Our stores provide an atmosphere where young people can be successful at work and develop a pattern of accomplishment for life."

For additional information or photos, contact Steve Reich at 801-978-8550 or [shreich@afstores.com](mailto:shreich@afstores.com).

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Associated Food Stores began a corporately owned group of stores under the "Associated Retail Stores" name in 1999. Associated Retail Stores was launched after the company purchased the Macey's and Lin's grocery organizations. Over the years, several other stores were added to this list of quality supermarkets. Currently, there are 22 ARS corporate stores operating under four different banners and formats: Macey's, Dan's, Lin's and Dick's Markets. These stores still demonstrate the community-centered commitment and attitude that was the key to success of their founders. Harnessing the united buying power with an extraordinary commitment to quality, these stores offer a perfect combination of low prices and quality products. Learn more about the Associated Retail Stores by visiting their websites: [www.maceys.com](http://www.maceys.com), [www.dansfoods.com](http://www.dansfoods.com), [www.linsmarketplace.com](http://www.linsmarketplace.com), [www.dicksmarket.com](http://www.dicksmarket.com)

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