



**MINNESOTA GROCERS ASSOCIATION**

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **NORMAN STATZ, LUNDS & BYERLYS, ST. CLOUD PLACES THIRD AT 2016 MINNESOTA BEST BAGGER**

St Paul, MN – September 6, 2016 – Norman Statz, an employee of Lunds & Byerlys, placed third at the Minnesota Grocers Association 2016 Best Bagger Contest Saturday, August 20, at the Mall of America.

The Minnesota Grocers Association has held the Best Bagger Contest for over 20 years. This contest is important to the MGA and its membership because it is a fun, fast-paced, and entertaining competition, but most importantly, this event showcases the talents of one of the industry's key employees. Baggers are the people responsible for the last experience customers have in a store, and the contest's focus on these top baggers truly exemplifies the food industry's dedication to customer service.

The ten participating contestants were judged on speed, style, attitude, proper bag building technique, and weight distribution between the bags. Contest attendees witnessed the art of "bagging" by some of Minnesota's best. To showcase the food industry's commitment to consumer choice and the well-being of the communities we serve, baggers used the ever-popular reusable bags!

Statz competed against 9 other baggers from across Minnesota. He was awarded a trophy and \$150. First place in the competition was awarded to Seth Allen of Chris' Food Center, Sandstone and Brandon Paulson of Teal's Market, Milaca took second.

*The MGA is a state trade association representing the food industry since 1897. We have over 200 retail members serving over 1,100 locations statewide, as well as over 100 distributors, manufacturers, and wholesale partners. Our member companies employ over 125,000 union and non-union Minnesotans. We actively advance the common interest of all those engaged in any aspect of the food industry of Minnesota as a civic leader and advocate.*

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