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STICKER SHOCK

Shoppers struggle to contain grocery costs

By JACQUELYN GUTC
Of The Oakland Press

Several factors are behind the rising prices on local grocery store shelves, and James Hiller, president of Hiller's Markets, calls them "the perfect storm."

Higher energy prices affect food prices, Hiller explained, as do weather conditions around the world, increasing demand for corn because of its use as a biofuel, a growing world population and the weak American

More on soaring food prices,
Pages A-20, A-21

dollar.

"It's not one thing," he said.

rect to blame any one element," said Hiller, whose company opened a Commerce Township location this week, its seventh store.

Hiller said he's trying to keep prices low and competitive, although all of his operating costs are rising.

PLEASE SEE PRICES/A-14

A shop-
per sorts
through
pears for
sale at
Westborn
Market in
Berkley.

The Oakland
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