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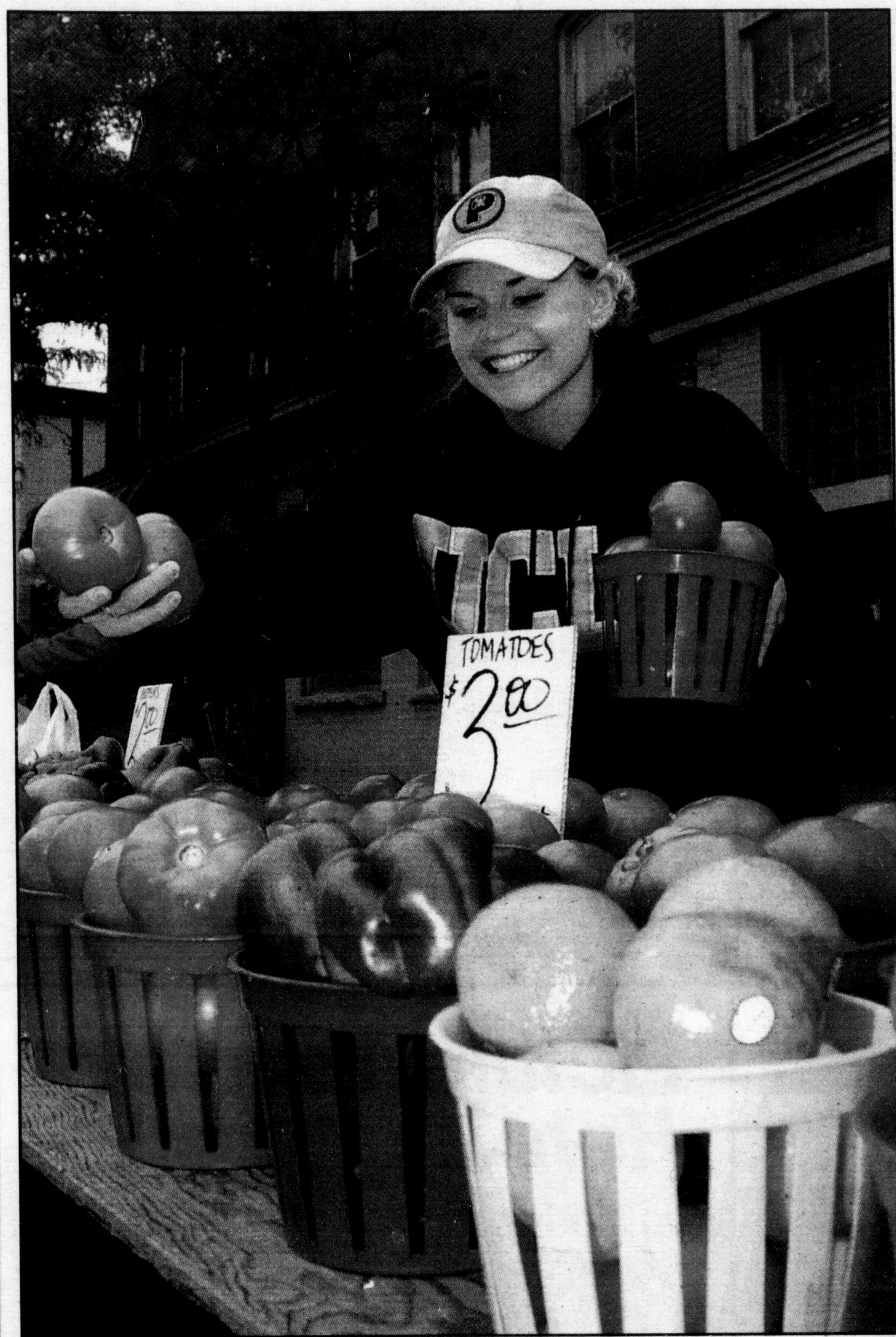


Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

✓ **Ripe for the pickin'**

Milec Enterprises' Gillian Cross loads up baskets of fresh tomatoes during the opening of the Milton Farmers' Market Saturday. The downtown market is now open every Saturday morning until late fall.

Report says:

Roughly 31,000 Halton residents living in poverty

By IRENE GENTLE
The Champion

Buried amid the affluence, 9.3 per cent of Halton residents live in poverty, the Region's health and social services committee heard Tuesday morning.

According to the recently-released Halton Poverty Project report, roughly 31,000 Halton residents struggle to make ends meet below the low income cut off.

But Halton was found to be the least

impoverished of 22 Canadian municipalities studied by the Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD).

In comparison, Toronto was found to have a 27 per cent poverty rate.

For a single person in Halton, the low income cut off is calculated at roughly \$14,400.

For a family of seven, it's \$36,800.

The report, drawn up by Halton Region in conjunction with the Urban Poverty Group, revealed that 58 per cent of Halton's poor were female, while 10 per cent were children under age 14 years.

But since the data for both the CCSD and Halton project were taken largely from 1991 and 1996 census forms, it may already be out of date, said Burlington Councillor Jack Dennison.

"My guess is employment and opportunity - see MOST on page 4

Hike for Health Sunday

Okay Milton, it's time once again to go that extra mile for your local hospital.

In fact time is running out to get those pledge forms filled for this Sunday's Hike for Health — a running, walking and in-line skating fundraiser designed to support Milton District Hospital.

Pledge forms can be picked up at various locations around town, including at the hospital, ReMax, SKD and the Fifth Wheel.

Prizes will be awarded to top individual fundraisers while the first 200 participants will receive a free t-shirt courtesy of Sherman Sand and Gravel.

The 10-km run begins at the hospital at 10 a.m. sharp — with the 10 km in-line skate and 6 or 4 km walk getting started at 11 a.m. and noon respectively.

Entry fees are \$10 per adult, \$5 per child and \$20 for a family.

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INSERTS

- FRIDAY MAY 26 •
 - Enbridge* • Biway • Loblaw's • A&P
 - Zellers • Shoppers Drug Mart • Sears
 - IDA • M&M Meats • Cristellos*
 - Food Basics • Canadian Tire
 - Bruce Hood Travel* • Future Shop*
 - Home Hardware* • Lazy Boy*
 - Nutrition Warehouse*
-
- SATURDAY MAY 27 •
 - No Frills • Walmart • Sears
 - Heinz Diana Sauce*
- *Selected areas only

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