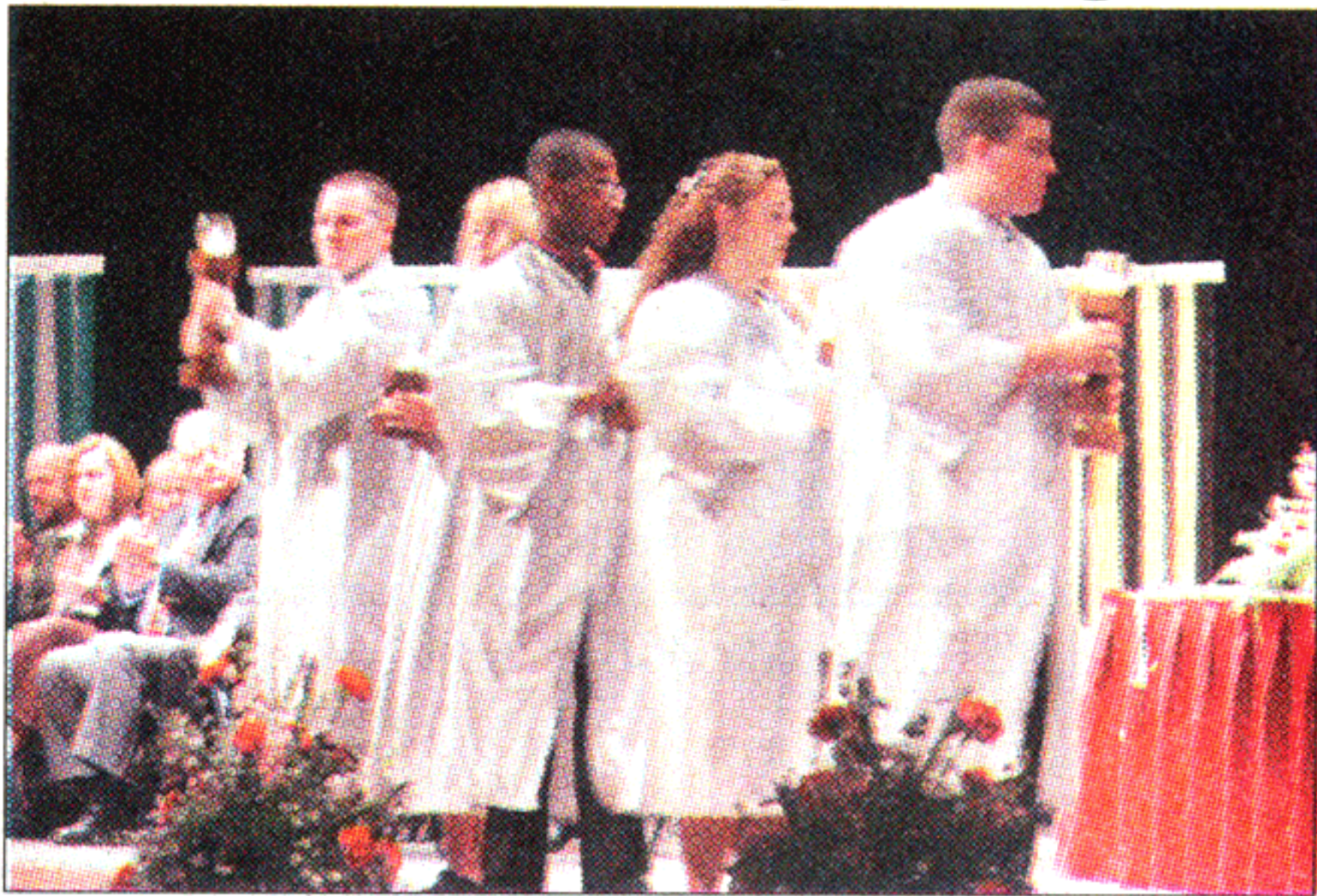


'Only the beginning'



CHRISTOPHER A. STANLEY/THE REPORTER

NORTH MONTCO Technical Career Center students hold candles Monday during the opening processional of the school's graduation ceremony.

North Montco graduates arrive at a crossroads

By **CHRISTIAN KLUSMAN**
Correspondent

PERKIOMEN — Proud family and friends filled the Perkiomen Valley Middle School auditorium Monday night as the Class of 2001 graduated from the North Montgomery County Technical Career Center.

Master of Ceremonies Vincent Lehmann, a cosmetology instructor at North Montco, was proud to send the 231 graduates on their way.

"You are dedicated to achieving excellence. Be a role model for those who are following in your footsteps," Lehmann said.

The school is open to high school students in the Methacton, North Penn, Wissahickon, Souderton Area and Perkiomen Valley school districts.

It grants certificates for completion of training in specific trades, ranging

from commercial art to machine trades to protective services.

Monday's ceremony began with the procession of flags in recognition of the participating school districts.

Student speaker Kathryn Relf, a cosmetology graduate, told her fellow students to leave the school taking pride in their achievements, and she gave a nod of recognition to the career center itself.

"Proud in my ability and polished in my character ... I say thank you," Relf said.

Guest speaker Walter E. Boguslaw II, a 1980 graduate of North Montco now employed as a manufacturing engineer at the Porter Instrument Co., assured the graduates that they are heading into the career world having had the best possible training. He also urged the gradu-

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ates not to forget those that have given them guidance.

"Your presence here tonight is a tribute to those who supported you," Boguslaw said.

Before announcing awards, David R. Liggett, the school's assistant director, urged the students to see the accomplishment only as a starting point.

"This is not the end; it is only the beginning," Liggett said.