



CAROL LOLLIS

Danny Garcia, in the middle, talks about the BARKA Foundation and his goal to raise money for Burkina Faso, a country in Africa rated as the third-poorest country in the world. To his left is Ina Anahata of the foundation; to his right is the group's Esu Anahata.

## 'Walking Man' crosses Valley to tap support for water cause

By **BOB FLAHERTY**  
Staff Writer

**NORTHAMPTON** — Danny Garcia trod on Northampton asphalt Monday, and the pace down King Street was blistering. He was on his way to Greenfield, the sixth leg of a 20-day walk, with the green and red flag of the third-poorest country in the world on his shoulder. He walks for children, he walks for peace, and for the next 14 days he'll walk for water.

Known as the Walking Man, Garcia claims to have walked over 25,000 miles on five continents since 1996. His travels have brought him into contact with Mother Theresa, Pope

John Paul II and heads of state. But his inspiration, he says, comes from the ordinary people who walk and pray with him.

"I'm not trying to run for office, be a millionaire or start a church," he said, sidestepping a backing-up box truck across from Goodyear Tire. "I'm here to establish relationships."

This month, Garcia has teamed up with Ina and Esu Anahata, co-founders of the BARKA Foundation, a Housatonic nonprofit dedicated to raising funds to build wells throughout Burkina Faso in West Africa, a

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