



Walkers fly the Bangladesh flag at the start of the historic walkathon at the Teknaf Beach Point yesterday.

## NZ coast past Canada

AFP, Gros Islet



Lou Vincent found his form after two noughts with a hundred as New Zealand made it three World Cup wins out of three in Group C with a 114-run success against Canada at the Beausejour Cricket Ground here Thursday.

Vincent's 101 was the centrepiece of New Zealand's World Cup record score of 363 for five. The innings also saw Brendon McCullum (52 not out) score the fastest World Cup 50 of all-time, off 20 balls with five sixes and one four, as Canada's attack wilted.

Canada captain John Davison, who four years ago scored the fastest World Cup hundred, off 67 balls, counter-attacked by making 52 before he was caught and bowled by paceman Michael Mason.

"It's been a good week, we're really happy," said New Zealand skipper Stephen Fleming, who contributed 66 to his side's largest World Cup total to which Canada managed 249-9 in reply.

"Even today, we were put under pressure with the new ball, Lou Vincent hit some runs (101) ... and we've come through the week pretty well."

New Zealand's total was also a Beausejour ground record in one-day internationals, coming just two days after they'd posted the previous best here of 331 for seven against Kenya.

Davison went on the offensive against an attack missing rested fast bowler Shane Bond.

Off the fifth ball, from Daryl Tuffey, playing his first match of the tournament, Davison pulled a six and he later weighed in with four successive fours off Mason.

Left-hander Geoff Barnett then

got in on the act with four off Tuffey. By then Davison had been bowled off a Mason no-ball and there was further frustration for the Black Caps when Barnett, on 15, was dropped by a diving McCullum off Tuffey.

Canada's 50 came in just 30 balls before, with the score on 76, they lost their first wicket.

Going for another boundary to add to his six and 10 fours, Davison miscued the ball straight up in their air and Mason made no mistake.

Davison had faced a mere 31 balls.

The run-rate slowed and

McCullum made amends for his earlier error by holding an edged cut from Barnett (40) off left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori to leave Canada 110 for two.

Ian Billcliffe, who has played for several New Zealand first-class sides, made 50 off 55 balls with four fours.

But one ball later he was bowled by medium-pacer Scott Styris and from their Canada's innings fell away.

However, their total of 249 for was their best at the World Cup, surpassing the 228 for seven they

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### NEW ZEALAND V CANADA SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the World Cup Group C match between Canada and New Zealand at the Beausejour Cricket Ground in St Lucia on Thursday:

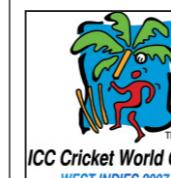
NEW ZEALAND	R	M	B	4s	6s
Vincent c & b Davison	101	178	117	9	1
Fleming c Billcliffe b Sandher	66	96	67	8	1
Fulton lbw b Sandher	47	50	47	4	1
Styris c Bagai b Samad	28	12	17	6	0
McMillan c Samad b Davison	10	4	6	1	0
Oram not out	35	36	27	0	3
McCullum not out	52	27	21	1	5
Extras: (b-1, lb-5, w-17, nb-1)			24		
Total: (For 5 wickets in 50 overs)	363				
Did not bat: Vettori, Tuffey, Patel, Mason.					
Fall of wickets: 1-142, 2-222, 3-253, 4-266, 5-278.					

Bowler	O	M	R	W	Econ
Cummins	10	1	59	0	5.90
Bhatti	5.3	1	25	0	4.54
Samad	2.3	0	31	1	12.40
Osinde	4	0	45	0	11.25
Sandher	10	0	58	2	5.80
Davison	10	0	67	2	6.70
Dhaniram	8	0	72	0	9.00

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## Pick in awe

AFP, Gros Islet



Canada coach Andy Pick said he was in "awe" of the commitment shown by his mainly amateur side after they bowed out of the World Cup with a 114-run defeat by New Zealand.

Although they lost all three of their matches, the North Americans never scored less than 199 and twice improved their record World Cup total, saving their best for last with 249 against New Zealand.

"They deserve days like today," Pick added after Thursday's match.

"They deserve to come and do well and take milestone away from the World Cup, to improve and to have people say 'they didn't win any games but they are better now than they were at the last World Cup and Canadian cricket is obviously moving forward'."

"They deserve all the credit for that because some of these guys go to work at 5am in the morning, finish at 5pm, drive for an hour-and-a-half, do three hours practice, go home, have something to eat, go to bed and do the same next day. And that's when it's minus 30."

"For the guys based in Canada it is a phenomenal effort."

"If the ICC are looking to expand the top group of teams, as they've done in the past with Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, it's essential we play in these competitions. That's what they want to do and all credit to them."

now, even against the Test playing teams.

"That's no longer a good day, that's the standard we should achieve," said Pick of a Canada side that went down to a more than respectable 51-run defeat against England in this World Cup.

Looking ahead, Pick said Canada could hold its own with the best of the associate or junior nations - the team play Ireland in the final of the four-day International Cricket Council (ICC) Intercontinental Cup tournament in May.

"I see Canadian cricket competing with the other associates who have professional frameworks in place and structures that develop youth talent. At the moment, Canada hasn't got that simply because of a lack of money. If and when we get some money into Canadian cricket, there's potential for growth there that there isn't in other countries."

And he said talk of 'minnow' nations devaluing the World Cup was wide of the mark.

"If the ICC are looking to expand the top group of teams, as they've done in the past with Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, it's essential we play in these competitions. That's what they want to do and all credit to them."

## Historic walkathon begins

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Two cricketers were killed in a road accident in Khulna on March 16.

National all-rounder Rana was a current Abahani player while opening batsman Shetu played for the national team a couple of seasons back.

Number of club officials, former players and journalists attended the programme.

### DIVI CRICKET

BKSP's winning streak in the Kait-Altech First Division Cricket League was snapped by Agrani Bank at the Dhaka University ground.

The sports institute lost their first game in eight matches when they were bundled out for 150 in 26 overs. The bankers achieved the target in 25 overs by losing seven wickets.

In the day's other matches, Rupali Bank (171-3) registered a seven-wicket victory over Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club (170-10) at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium and Azad Sporting Club (229-9) thrashed Eskaton Sabuj Sangha by 98 runs at BKSP.

NSU INTRA-BATCH CRICKET

Masud blitzed the fastest century in North South University history as his blistering 105 gave Batch 06 a thumping eight-wicket win over Batch 04 in the opening match of the intra-batch cricket tournament at the WAPDA ground in Banani.

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## Troost given fitting bye

AFP, Basseterre



The Netherlands bid farewell to captain Luuk van Troost with a thumping eight-wicket win over Scotland in the battle of the World Cup Group A minnows on Thursday.

Van Troost dropped himself from the match because of a lack of form leaving acting-skipper Jeroen Smits to pay a glowing tribute to the 37-year-old.

"Van Troost is honest and dropped himself in the best interests of the team. He had wanted to make his farewell appearance, but couldn't make it. He was depressed and so was I."

The Netherlands, who won the battle of the World Cup Group A minnows on Thursday.

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