

1990 and 1992 Northern Trust Open champion Fred Couples began the day five strokes off Scott McCarron's 10-under lead. But following a 5-under 30 on the front nine, Couples had caught that lead. The 49 year-old Couples ended the third-round with a 6-under 65, trailing Mickelson by five. His 65 was his best round since shooting an 8-under 64 in round three of the 50th Bob Hope Classic presented by Arnold Palmer last month.

Fred Couples is playing in his 26th Northern Trust Open, and upon conclusion of Saturday's third round, has now competed in 100 rounds at the Northern Trust Open.

Robert Allenby, who won the 2001 Northern Trust Open in a one-hole, six-way playoff, fired a third-round 3-under 68 to finish T12. Allenby has finished inside the top-seven three of the last four years at the Northern Trust Open..

Robert Allenby finishes at the Northern Trust Open:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Finish</u>
2005	T3
2006	Cut
2007	T3
2008	T7

By making the cut at the 2009 Northern Trust Open, Robert Allenby extended his streak of made cuts to 28, just one behind the current best of 29, held by Tiger Woods.

Following the death of his mother on January 28, 2009, Robert Allenby is making his first start of the year. He is attempting to play his way on the 2009 Presidents Cup team after having played on the 1994, 1996, 2000 and 2003 Presidents Cup International Team.

At one point in the third round, there were four past champions in the top-five:

<u>Past Champion</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
Fred Couples	1990, 1992
Phil Mickelson	2008
Mark Calcavecchia	1989
Robert Allenby	2001

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
Thursday	34.514	35.938	70.451	---
Friday	35.222	35.979	71.201	70.826
Saturday	34.493	35.600	70.093	70.675

The par-5 first hole has played the easiest the first three rounds at 4.320. The toughest hole in round three was the par-four eighth, with an over-par average of 4.307.