

July 15, 1987 —Jack Van Berg makes racing history at Arlington by becoming the first thoroughbred trainer to win 5,000 races with Art's Chandelle.

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/horseracing/2017/12/27/jack-van-berg-hall-of-famer-who-trained-alysheba-dies/108946692/>

September 13, 1989 —Pat Day sets a North American record by winning with eight of his nine mounts at Arlington, the same year as Arlington renamed as Arlington International Racecourse.

Background from DRF:

Eddie Castro's nine wins in one day (June 4, 2005) – Two jockeys, Chris Antley and Eddie Castro, have won nine races in one day, but the unvarnished record belongs to Castro. Antley needed a day and a night to win his nine, at Aqueduct and the Meadowlands in 1987. He rode in 14 races overall. On June 4, 2005, Castro won nine races and finished second and fourth in two others while riding 11 times on a 13-race card at Calder. Castro, 20, had come from his native Panama to win the Eclipse Award for apprentices two years before. On his big day at Calder, he finished second in the first race, won the second through the fourth, skipped the fifth, won the sixth, skipped the seventh, finished fourth in the eighth, then won the last five.

Why this is unbreakable: According to the American Racing Manual, nine jockeys have had eight-win days, three of them pulling a Chris Antley and riding at two tracks. **But there hasn't been an eight-bagger at one track since Pat Day went 8 for 9 at Arlington Park in 1989.** The first jockey to win eight was Hubert Jones, at Agua Caliente in 1944.

June 30, 1973 – Secretariat had become the first Triple crown winner in over 25 years in 1973. After his record setting 31 length victory in the Belmont, there was no more famous athlete in the America. He was not only an industry wide phenomenon, he had become a national superstar and on June 30, 1973 he came to Arlington Park for his first start since securing his Triple Crown. In front of 41,223 people that day he romped to victory in the Arlington Invitational.

October 9, 1992 —Veteran track announcer Phil Georgeff, a member of the Guinness Book of World Records and the Chicago Sports Hall of Fame, calls his final race at Arlington.

Phil Georgeff is in the Guinness Book of World Records for calling 96,131 races in his lifetime.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/obituaries/ct-obituary-georgeff-1113-20161111-story.html>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phil\\_Georgeff](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phil_Georgeff)

July 13, 1996 – Cigar was aiming to tie the Modern American record of winning 16 straight races. Trainer Bill Mott had plans to bring Cigar to Southern California for the Grade I \$1 Million dollar Hollywood Gold Cup, but after a minor injury Mott was forced to look elsewhere. The Arlington Citation Challenge was created specifically to create a race here for Cigar. Instead of keeping Cigar in Southern California, owner Allen Paulsen and trainer Bill Mott set their sights on Arlington Park for the \$1,050,000 purse. On July 13, 1996 in front of 34,423 people at Arlington Park, he tied Citations American record winning the Citation Challenge.

Sept. 21, 2008 - Hall of Fame jockey Earlie Fires hangs up his tack after guiding Frank C. Calabrese's Manchu Prince to a fifth-place in the fifth race at Arlington International Racecourse. He ends his career as the track's all-time leading rider with 2,886 victories.