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WEST COAST TAKES ON SEVEN IN GRADE III, \$200,000 LOS ALAMITOS DERBY

CYPRESS, Calif. – West Coast, an impressive winner of the Easy Goer on the Belmont Stakes undercard June 10 in New York, will seek his third consecutive victory Saturday when he faces seven opponents in the Grade III, \$200,000-guaranteed Los Alamitos Derby.

Restricted to 3-year-olds at 1 1/8 miles, the Derby is the seventh of eight races. Post time Saturday is 2 p.m. Scheduled post time for the Derby is 4:58 p.m.

There will also be a Los Alamitos drawstring backpack giveaway – one per paid admission while supplies last.

Trained by Hall of Famer Bob Baffert for owners Gary and Mary West, West Coast, a son of Flatter and the Honour and Glory mare Caressing, overcame a troubled start to win the Easy Goer by nearly four lengths three weeks after an optional claiming victory at Santa Anita.

Purchased for \$425,000 at the Keeneland September sale in 2015, West Coast has three wins in five starts and earned \$203,800. He has yet to finish worse than second.

Baffert will be looking for his second Los Alamitos Derby win, having captured the 2015 renewal with Gimme Da Lute.

Klimt, a former Baffert trainee, will make his 2017 debut and first start for Art Sherman in the Derby.

Owned by Kaleem Shah, the son of Quality Road was a double stakes winner as a 2-year-old, taking the Grade II Best Pal and Grade I Del Mar Futurity in succession last summer.

Out of the Dixie Union mare Inventive, Klimt, who is 3-for-6 with earnings of \$416,960, has been idle since finishing eighth of 11 in the Grade I Breeders' Cup Juvenile last Nov. 5.

Trainer Doug O'Neill will send out a trio – B Squared, Milton Freewater and Term of Art – Saturday.

Owned by breeder J. Paul Reddam's Reddam Racing LLC, B Squared has two wins in five races and a bankroll of \$154,400. The Square Eddie colt out of the Ten Most Wanted mare Silar Rules was second June 24 behind heavily-favored Battle of Midway in the Grade III Affirmed.

Owned by a partnership that includes Kramer Racing, Sheep Pond Partners, Royce Jaime and Steve Keh, Milton Freewater returns to the main track after

finishing 10th of 11 on the turf in the Snow Chief vs. fellow California bred May 29.

A gray son of Creative Cause and the Swiss Yodeler mare Lovehi, Milton Freewater has won twice in 10 starts and earned \$143,610. He broke his maiden at first asking at Los Alamitos April 22, 2016 when trained by Mike Harrington.

Term of Art comes off a third-place finish in the Affirmed for Calumet Farm. The Tiznow colt out of the Storm Cat mare Miles of Style is winless in six starts as a 3-year-old. His last victory came in the Grade III Cecil B. DeMille last Nov. 27 at Del Mar.

A \$220,000 purchase at the 2015 Keeneland September sale, Term of Art is 2-for-11 and has banked \$182,105.

Hall of Fame trainer Jerry Hollendorfer, who won the inaugural Los Alamitos Derby in 2014 with the brilliant Shared Belief, will be represented Saturday by Colonist.

Owned by Stonestreet Stables LLC, the Pioneer of the Nile colt out of the Bluegrass Cat mare She Cat has won two of four and earned \$73,640. He has been away since finishing fifth against older rivals in an optional claimer May 21.

Kimbear will stretch out again for a partnership that includes trainer Eric Kruljac, Rory Albert and Frank and Karen Lewkowitz after finishing second behind American Pastime in an optional claimer at seven furlongs June 11.

The Temple City colt has a win in nine starts and earned \$105,640. In his only attempt at nine furlongs, Kimbear, who is out of the Sky Mesa mare Sky Dreamer, was sixth in the Grade I Santa Anita Derby April 8.

The Kentucky bred does have experience at Los Alamitos. He finished second behind Iliad in a maiden race at six furlongs last Dec. 18.

Cistrion will return to dirt after consecutive races on the grass for Hronis Racing LLC and Little Red Feather and trainer John Sadler.

A son of The Factor and the Officer mare Major Allie, Cistrion has won three of nine and earned \$251,179. His lone main track score came in the Northern Spur April 15 at Oaklawn Park.

Hronis, Sadler and jockey Tyler Baze are looking for their second consecutive win in the Los Alamitos Derby. They were successful a year ago with Accelerate.

From inside out, the field for the 4th Los Alamitos Derby: Kimbear, Joe Talamo rides, 122 pounds; Cistrion, Tyler Baze, 122; Colonist, Flavien Prat, 122; B Squared, Corey Nakatani, 122; West Coast, Drayden Van Dyke, 122; Klimt, Rafael Bejarano, 122; Milton Freewater, Norberto Arroyo, Jr., 122 and Term of Art, Evin Roman, 122.