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# Gosstray ends state career on high note

By Chris Stubbs  
May 11 2006

Shepparton News

Former Mooroopna softball player Narelle Gosstray has claimed her sixth national women's baseball title.

Despite going into the tournament as underdog, the NSW Metro team was too good for the highlyfancied Victorian team, taking the final 4-0.

NSW lost to Victoria during the tournament, but Gosstray said her team approached the final full of confidence.

"We were confident that we had the best team," Gosstray said.

"We felt we had it from the moment we started the final."

At 36, Gosstray is a veteran of the



Victory smile: Narelle Gosstray (centre) celebrates her side's win in the Australian Women's National Championship.

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sport and took the opportunity to go out on top, announcing yesterday that she will be putting the state mitt into retirement.

The announcement brings to an end a glittering representative career that includes competing in the past nine Australian titles and representing Australia on four occasions.

Gosstray's career began in the Goulburn Valley in 1995 when she started playing softball under the guidance of local baseball guru Andrew Fox.



Champion stance: Former Mooroopna resident Narelle Gosstray recently celebrated a stellar baseball career by bowing out of the game with her sixth national title from nine attempts.

After moving to Melbourne, Gosstray made the switch from under-arm softball to over-arm baseball and from that point her career blossomed.

**I was the oldest by eight years. The girls all reckon I'm a bit of a mum, but I'm not.**

- Narelle Gosstray

Gosstray represented Victoria at the nationals on four occasions before moving to Sydney and doing the unthinkable, swapping the Victorian colours for the blue of NSW.

Pledging allegiance to NSW did not stop Gosstray from being on the receiving end of team banter as the oldest member of the NSW team.

"I was the oldest by eight years," Gosstray said.

"The girls all reckon I'm a bit of a mum, but I'm not."

Now that her state playing days are over, Gosstray is turning her attention to coaching her newlyestablished team, the Aussie Hearts.

"We've got a bunch together from Victoria, NSW and the NT and we're off to Disneyworld, Orlando, with an under-14 side and a senior side," Gosstray said.

She will continue to play baseball at a club level for Baulkham Hills in Sydney.

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