

CROSSFIRE

Suddenly A Club Gets Old

A major league baseball team can become too old in the space of a single season. A star season suddenly is a step slower. A pitcher over 30 may start losing his last ball. A 300 hitter tops to .370.

When two or three mainstays on a club slip at the same time, that club generally encounters trouble. Pressure mounts on lesser performers to carry the team; if they can't, the manager doesn't sleep at night.

Al Lopez of the Chicago White Sox and Charlie Dressen of the Milwaukee Braves must be jacking the floor these evenings. The opening weeks of the baseball season suggest that their club may have become "old" suddenly.

WARM WEATHER: If it ever arrives, may rekindle such warm arms as those of Early Wynn of the Sox and Lew Burdette of the Braves, or return the snap in the bats of odditimers like Sherm Lollar. But Lopez and Dressen still must wonder and worry.

The fall of the White Sox has been anticipated almost since the club was founded. But each season the Chicago club has surprised its odditimers, managed to stay patched enough to either win the pennant or a close.

But this may be the season the White Sox finally surrender to age. Wynn, Billy Pierce, Eddie Mathews and Turk Lown can't keep pitching forever. Nellie Fox may not be a step slower, though he is only a tenth of a second off. Even Minnie Miñoso must slow up in time. The Sox's hitters have been around a long time.

The Go-Go Sox just can't go-go as they used to a few years back. LOPEZ AND BILL Veck may not complete a big trade since the club doesn't want to move. Veck isn't one to wait long, and a trade might help keep fan interest high.

The White Sox farm system isn't among the best in the league. The club has traded for most of its talent and must do so again. Lopez makes that he needs another younger pitcher or two and another outfielder.

At Milwaukee, the Braves finally are running out of the talent which sparked the club since the franchise was moved there from Boston. Milwaukee acquired the team at just the proper time.

The Braves farm system had started to produce players that eventually led to pennants and a World Series triumph.

But the talent down on the farm has grown thin. The young pitcher dubbed "can't miss" somehow missed. Juan Pizarro and Tony, two of the best prospects, have been traded away. Carter Willey hasn't developed into a winner.

Burdette may have pitched himself out, and Bob Bly is in Spain, to do, keeps going, but he may not be able to pitch for the Sox again if the Braves staff crumbles. The club's relief corps appears lacking again and Spahn may need help that isn't there.

Nor has the Braves farm system produced one of the help Hank Aaron. The club had to trade for Frank Bolling and Roy McMillan to patch up its infield. A good coach at first base is another outlook that may not hold up over the season.

Milwaukee is another club which may be forced to trade if it has to challenge for the pennant.

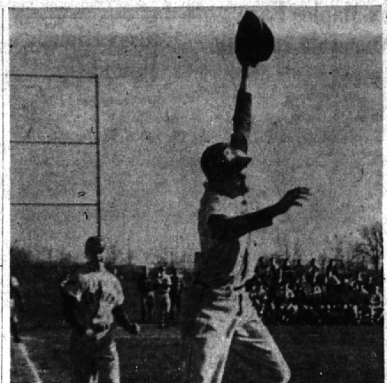
THE SHORTCOMINGS of playing a college baseball schedule during the spring in the Great Lakes area produce a number of emphasized recently when Michigan and Michigan State had to postpone 15 of their 1961 games in one day — one in the morning and two in the afternoon.

Main reason is the original schedules in the Big Ten only theoretical. Poor weather has ruined the season, and has almost ruined the schedule.

The squeeze on college sports budgets continues due to drop in football receipts and increased expenses. Baseball may be among the first sports dropped. The game is one of the most expensive to maintain and brings almost no financial return.

The college season ends when the weather gets warm. Student interest is incidental.

HOWEVER, the trend among colleges to a three-semester school year may prove a savior for baseball.



Al Lopez of the Chicago White Sox and Charlie Dressen of the Milwaukee Braves must be jacking the floor these evenings. The opening weeks of the baseball season suggest that their club may have become "old" suddenly.

WARM WEATHER: If it ever arrives, may rekindle such warm arms as those of Early Wynn of the Sox and Lew Burdette of the Braves, or return the snap in the bats of odditimers like Sherm Lollar. But Lopez and Dressen still must wonder and worry.

The fall of the White Sox has been anticipated almost since the club was founded. But each season the Chicago club has surprised its odditimers, managed to stay patched enough to either win the pennant or a close.

But this may be the season the White Sox finally surrender to age. Wynn, Billy Pierce, Eddie Mathews and Turk Lown can't keep pitching forever. Nellie Fox may not be a step slower, though he is only a tenth of a second off. Even Minnie Miñoso must slow up in time. The Sox's hitters have been around a long time.

The Go-Go Sox just can't go-go as they used to a few years back. LOPEZ AND BILL Veck may not complete a big trade since the club doesn't want to move. Veck isn't one to wait long, and a trade might help keep fan interest high.

The White Sox farm system isn't among the best in the league. The club has traded for most of its talent and must do so again. Lopez makes that he needs another younger pitcher or two and another outfielder.

At Milwaukee, the Braves finally are running out of the talent which sparked the club since the franchise was moved there from Boston. Milwaukee acquired the team at just the proper time.

The Braves farm system had started to produce players that eventually led to pennants and a World Series triumph.

But the talent down on the farm has grown thin. The young pitcher dubbed "can't miss" somehow missed. Juan Pizarro and Tony, two of the best prospects, have been traded away. Carter Willey hasn't developed into a winner.

Nor has the Braves farm system produced one of the help Hank Aaron. The club had to trade for Frank Bolling and Roy McMillan to patch up its infield. A good coach at first base is another outlook that may not hold up over the season.

Milwaukee is another club which may be forced to trade if it has to challenge for the pennant.

THE SHORTCOMINGS of playing a college baseball schedule during the spring in the Great Lakes area produce a number of emphasized recently when Michigan and Michigan State had to postpone 15 of their 1961 games in one day — one in the morning and two in the afternoon.

Main reason is the original schedules in the Big Ten only theoretical. Poor weather has ruined the season, and has almost ruined the schedule.

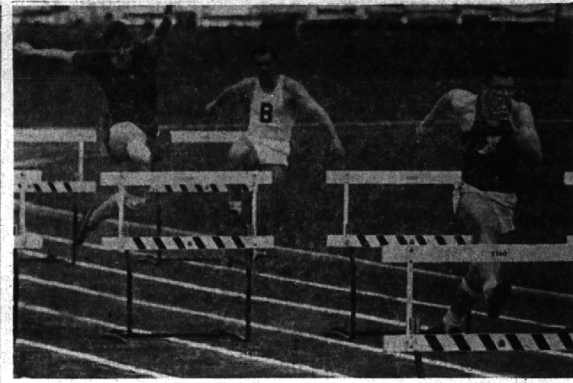
The squeeze on college sports budgets continues due to drop in football receipts and increased expenses. Baseball may be among the first sports dropped. The game is one of the most expensive to maintain and brings almost no financial return.

The college season ends when the weather gets warm. Student interest is incidental.

HOWEVER, the trend among colleges to a three-semester school year may prove a savior for baseball.

Crabrook Netters Split Two Matches

Crabrook's tennis team split two matches last week. The netters defeated Ann Arbor University 4-3 on May 1. Winners for the Crabrook were Kent Rakes and Norm Erickson in singles and the three doubles teams. Season's record stands at 5-5.



Bloomfield Hills Jeff Aldred is way ahead in his favorite event, the hurdles. Along with former cager Art Tregenza, who also plays on the baseball team, Aldred has won the majority of his events during the year which finds his school for the first time competing in Class A.

Cranes Win at U-D; Maples Rained Out

A muddy track didn't stop the Cranes, but a muddy course did force the cancellation of the Popo track: Dick Waters Relays at Monroe which was to take place Saturday. Seaholm is defending champion in the meet.

Although the Birmingham school didn't have an opportunity to defend its title, Crabrook was able to spend over a sloppy field at the University of Detroit and successfully defended its U of D Relays Class B crown.

Cranes won eight of 14 events, which included five relays, the pole vault, high jump and 100-yard dash.

THEY SCORED in all but two events for 52 points. Second was Lutherton West with 25. Tray was eighth with 10 points. Groves had one.

Rain soaked the track which was covered in mud but a few spots. Only record set was by Lutherton West's three-man shot put team. In the Class A division Detroit kept its crown intact with 37 points to runner-up Detroit Northwestern's 32.

THERE WERE 29 schools entered in the meet. 23 Class A and 16 B, with 450 prep athletes competing. Coach Ben Snyder's boys won the distance medley, shuttle hurdle, omnium relay, two-mile relay and 800-yard relay.

Barney Crouse took the 100-yard dash in 10 seconds and three-man teams won the high jump and pole vault. Art Schueler, of Groves, took a third in the 100, for the school's only point.

OTHER CRABROOK POINTS (See MAPLES, 7-E) Seaholm '9' Loses, 9-0

Seaholm's Baseball squad lost an abbreviated game last week to Ferndale, 9-0, when the umpire stopped action due to darkness. The four and one half inning contest was played at Ferndale.

Eagles had nine runs on five hits and committed one error. Sam Tassio's Maples had four hits and crossed four times.

Gene Schmidt was the starting pitcher for Seaholm and was relieved in the third inning by Bob Becker.

TIM TOUT (2), Bob Townsend and Becker got Birmingham's hits. Ferndale collected four of its tallies in the third inning and the other five in the fourth.

Seaholm's public address system and picnic tables, were added to accommodate the growing attendance (15,000 last year), added Novacek. "Our growing membership (now 225) encouraged us to initiate a flag school at our club so enthusiasts who are not interested in driving have a chance to learn some other phase of the sport such as organization, flagging or race planning," Novacek concluded.

RACING BEGINS at 10 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. There is an admission charge for adults while children under 12 are admitted free. Parking is available at the club.

"GROWING spectator interest in this sport, coupled with the fact that ours is the only such track in and around Michigan, has urged us to make our facilities more comfortable for the public. Spectator areas, refreshment

printing technicians, skilled laborers, salesmen and presidents of companies are just some who will be working in the pits, flagging at the starting line or bent over the wheel of a competing sports car. The primary purpose of the club is to train and qualify drivers to handle sports cars on a road at high speeds and at the same time provide them a place to practice.

Professional photographers, the Oakland County racing arena is outgrowing the 16-year-old Oakland County Sportsman's Club, is a non-profit organization made up of people from all walks of life.

Officials of the club have announced their first feature sports car race of the 1961 season to be held at the mile and one-half course in Waterford, six miles north of Pontiac and one quarter mile east of U.S. 10 at Waterford Derby.

"The first of two weekends of racing, the Spring Sprints, is slated for May 20 and 21 and is expected to draw record entries for a six-state area and Canada," said Art Novacek, club president.

"Our track, one of the only winding road courses in the Midwest, has gained in popularity among racing competitors and fans because of the demands it makes for both car and driver," Novacek said.

"OUR course tests the car and driver at high speeds under actual road conditions. Because it is a relatively short track and contains numerous tricky curves, speeds are kept at a thrilling and competitive pace," according to Novacek.

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in

Waterford's sports car track offers in the air instead of driving their vehicles at interesting view from the air. Hairpin turns in the track is operated by often cause racers to wish they, too, were in