

Surprise, Surprise: Don't Count Cubs, White Sox Out

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Opening Day is only hours away, and I can't recall a baseball season that will begin with lower expectations for both sides of town.

To hear the experts tell it, neither the Cubs nor the White Sox will finish higher than fourth in their division.

See, I'm optimistic already.

The lower the bar, the looser and better athletics play oftentimes. They also can become that much more motivated to prove their doubters wrong.

The Cubs and White Sox have some young players who may be ready to step forward this season. And in both cases, the competition in the Central Division figures to be ordinary at best.

If our boys of summer surprise some people along the way, then I won't be one of them.

Now on with The Show . . .