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[Review of] The McFarland Baseball Quotations Dictionary

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The McFarland baseball quotations dictionary, ed. by David H. Nathan.
McFarland, 2000. 294p indexes afp ISBN [078640888X](#), \$45.00

Nathan (journalist, playwright, schoolteacher, and author of the earlier edition, *Baseball Quotations*, 1991) has compiled some 4,000 quotations, double the number in the earlier edition. (The cost has nearly doubled as well.) As in the earlier edition, quotations are arranged alphabetically under broad subjects (e.g., "Amazing Accomplishments," "Defense," "Looks Aren't Everything"). A few individuals get their own sections: Ralph Kiner, Bill Veeck, Casey Stengel, Mitch Williams(!), and Yogi Berra. An appendix ranks the most quoted (Stengel leads with 117). A wide range of commentators over the past 100 years is quoted: participants and observers, fans and detractors, literary figures (e.g., John Updike), musicians (e.g., Bruce Springsteen), and children's characters (e.g., Oscar the Grouch). One might argue with coverage (the witty and provocative Keith Olbermann has only two entries), but this collection covers its position well. Entries provide speaker and context, but the sources of the quotations are not revealed, not even those previously printed. The name and subject indexes are good, but a keyword index would be useful. Paul Dickson's *Baseball's Greatest Quotations* (CH, Dec'91) still sets the standard (over 5,000 quotations and more historical information), but Nathan's work is a useful addition, particularly for coverage of the last ten years. For baseball and quotation collections.

--R. A. Aken, *University of Kentucky*

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