

The Green Mile

By an Inch

It's "The Green Mile," by an inch.

That's the popular choice for this year's Academy Award for best picture, albeit by the slimmest margin. The adaptation of Stephen King's supernatural novel just barely edges out the other supernatural contender, "The Sixth Sense." "American Beauty," tagged by Hollywood insiders as the frontrunner, lags in third.

Which Should Win?	
The Green Mile	25%
The Sixth Sense	22
American Beauty	13
The Cider House Rules	5
The Insider	3

The actual choice, of course, will be made by Academy members. Indeed, many Americans haven't seen these movies. A third had no opinion on which should win, which is more than picked any one of the five nominees. And there's a good reason the "The Green Mile" and "The Sixth Sense" lead the pack: They're the biggest box-office successes of the field, meaning, simply, that more people saw them.

There's a slight disparity among age groups. Young adults are more apt to favor "The Sixth Sense," while middle-aged Americans are more likely to pick "The Green Mile." Older Americans apparently aren't getting out to the movies as much - they're far more likely to have no opinion.

The Oscars air Sunday night, March 26, on ABC.

METHODOLOGY - This ABC News.com survey was conducted by telephone March 15-19, 2000, among a random national sample of 1,009 adults. The results have a three-point error margin. Field work by ICR-International Communications Research of Media, Pa.

Analysis by Dalia Sussman.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com on the Internet at:
<http://www.abcnews.com/sections/us/PollVault/PollVault.html>

45. I'm going to name the movies that have been nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture this year. Which one do you think should win the Oscar?

The Green Mile	25
The Sixth Sense	22
American Beauty	13
The Cider House Rules	5
The Insider	3
No opinion	32

END