



"No matter how good a crown looks, fit, form and function all have to be there," says Brian Paris (left), pictured with his father, owner Mike Paris, and Sandra Lauckner.

**Technician team:** Sandra Lauckner, waxer, and Brian Paris, metal and ceramic work

**Laboratory:** Paris Dental Lab, Moses Lake, Washington, owned by Brian's father, Mike Paris; [www.parisdentalab.com](http://www.parisdentalab.com)

**Nine bad apples:** Many

of **LMT's** readers expressed surprise at the result of **LMT's** *Crown Experiment 2007*, but for Brian Paris, the feeling was closer to distress. "I couldn't stand the idea of any of those nine crowns being put in people's mouths—even the one that received the highest rating," he says. "That kind of work gives all of us a bad name."

**On being in a small, tight-knit dental community:** Moses Lake is a small town where the dentists network with one another during weekly lunches and periodic fishing trips. "I'm always surprised when I hear from other laboratory owners how dentists and laboratories alike can be so cut-throat; here everyone helps each other out."

It helps that Paris Dental Lab is the only lab in a 60-mile radius; the lab has about 20 regular clients in Moses Lake and neighboring towns. "We've never had to solicit accounts because there's no nearby competition," he says. While some of their dentist-clients have been

approached by laboratories outside the community, it's likely the personal relationships—coupled with the lab's technical excellence—that have kept them at Paris. Mike Paris, owner of the laboratory, had already been working at the lab for 11 years when he purchased it in 1984 from the group of dentists who owned it. "My father has been doing business with some of our customers since they started their careers 30 years ago," says Brian.

As for younger dentists who come into the community, they find an ally in Brian, who manages the ceramic department. "They're about my age, and they're interested in some of the new technology

we're exploring, so it's been easy to forge relationships right from the get-go." **LMT**



This crown's metal collar is deemed "beautiful," by one judge, with others pointing out the excellent porcelain/metal transition and porcelain blend. Other qualities that stand out to our evaluators are the marginal integrity and the detailed, non-uniform anatomy.