

## Crown 8A



Philip NeQuent believes his art training—including time at the Art Institute of Houston—enhances his restorative work.

### Technician and laboratory:

Philip NeQuent, who was with Rx Laboratory, Houston, when he fabricated the crown, is currently with D.D.S. Associates in Houston, another one of our *Sweet 16* winners.

**A “model” model:** Like many of our readers, NeQuent was disappointed in the results of our *Crown Experiment*. But when he received the same model with the same prep for the *Crown Challenge*, he was truly puzzled as to why the crowns in our blind study were so poorly made. “It was an ideal prep with nice shoulders all the way around. When a technician has that kind of room, he should be able to make a beautiful crown.”

In addition to taking a lot of manufacturer-sponsored courses to fine-tune his skills, NeQuent’s background as an artist plays a large part in his laboratory

work. “It really helps to look at a crown from an artist’s perspective, whether you’re looking at the emergence profile, the Curve of Spee or Wilson, or even just the balance of colors in the occlusal staining,” he says.

### On getting his start in dental technology:

While NeQuent was in the military, a friend from his high school art classes sent him a letter offering him a job as a waxer at his father’s laboratory. NeQuent took him up on his offer and also received dental technology training while in the Army Reserve. Twenty years later, he still finds it to be an outlet for his artistic talent. Even so, he still stays active as an artist in the traditional sense—he’s worked in pen and ink, clay, wood carvings, pastels and acrylics—doing everything from portraits and murals to giant sand sculptures with his kids on the beach. **LMT**



Exhibiting a “perfect glaze,” Crown 8A is admired for its ideal anatomy, translucent enamel on the cusp tips and natural-looking stain.