

ABOUT THE COVER



Full face, before.

by Wade M. Pilling, DMD

Having competed in and won numerous beauty pageants, Melissa definitely had an eye for perfection, and felt that her smile was not perfect. I knew that I had my work cut out for me, especially as Melissa was a dental professional herself. Her main complaint was that her tooth proportions and gingival heights were unnatural; she also was displeased with the existing bonding. My initial reaction was that I could not help her. She already had what I considered pretty teeth, with good color (although perhaps with some proportions outside the norm). Because she was a perfectionist, a beauty queen, and a dental hygienist, I knew expectations were high. Taking an already nice smile and making it better can be challenging, and I wanted to make sure she understood that the benefits needed to outweigh the risks (or, as I like to tell my patients, "The juice has got to be worth the squeeze").

After consultation and further examination, I could better appreciate her concerns. She was congenitally missing laterals, and as a child she had had orthodontics to move canines into the lateral position; this had left her with poor tooth proportions, uneven gingival heights, and lack of central dominance. These issues had bothered her ever since childhood and she was finally in a situation where she felt comfortable proceeding with treatment. Melissa was well aware of the importance of the AACD when selecting a dentist to perform her restorations. She was very upfront about her expectations of having a better smile without the use of orthodontics. Typically in these situations I want to have the orthodontist leave space for laterals, but we were far past that. (See page 20 for a clinical article about this case.)

Melissa had brought in numerous photographs of smiles from magazines showing us the type of smile she desired. She also had given us a deadline by which treatment needed to be completed, because she was competing in the Miss Idaho pageant. Because of her high expectations and desire to be fully involved every step of the way, we had her meet in person with the laboratory technician, Brad Jones from Professional Dental Arts. He had multiple visits with her to create the wax-up that she approved. After doing a mock-up in the mouth, she accepted treatment and was ready to begin. She was referred to a periodontist for crown lengthening on the bicuspids to give them better gingival symmetry and flow as the teeth transitioned from anterior to posterior. Minor root reshaping was also done to the canines to give them a more lateral-looking emergence profile. Canines typically have a large cervical area, which makes a canine difficult to disguise as a lateral. After a healing period, minor gingival reshaping and touch-ups were completed with a diode laser. Preparations were done using oral conscious sedation and Melissa was placed in temporaries to verify esthetics and function. The delivery appointment went very smoothly, with minimal adjustments needed because proper protocol had been followed from records to final restorations. Melissa immediately loved her teeth. She had wanted them to be as white as possible while still looking natural, and I believe we accomplished that. She came in First Runner-Up in the pageant and has since signed a modeling contract. Melissa has always lived life to the fullest, and now she does it with an even bigger smile.



Before



After

ABOUT THE PHOTO SHOOT

by Bradley L. Jones, AAACD

To achieve even the possibility of having a photograph chosen for the cover of the *Journal of Cosmetic Dentistry (JCD)*, it is necessary to take a minimum of 400 shots. These photographs need to be in RAW format with impeccable focus on the patient's teeth. You will need to have some space over the patient's head, which will be needed for the *JCD's* title. A photograph that tells a story has a much better chance of being selected than one that simply duplicates a previous *JCD* cover. I hired a photographer, Chad Transtrum, for \$300 and we each shot over 300 photographs of the patient for this purpose. We both used a Canon D5 digital camera. (Canon USA; Lake Success, NY) This cover was shot with a Canon Zoom Lens EF 24-105 L series. A university campus was chosen for the backdrop. Dr. Pilling acquired the necessary releases for the photographs from the patient, the other photographer, as well as myself, and sent them in to the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (AACD) along with the photographs for the cover submission. I recommend that you contact the AACD Publications Team for front cover guidelines and hire a professional photographer. Then, watch and learn.

Dentistry: Wade A. Pilling, DMD, Meridian, ID. Ceramist: Brad Jones, Boise, ID. Cover Photographer: Chad Transtrum, Boise, ID. *BJ*



MELISSA HAS ALWAYS LIVED LIFE TO THE FULLEST, AND NOW SHE DOES IT WITH AN EVEN BIGGER SMILE.

