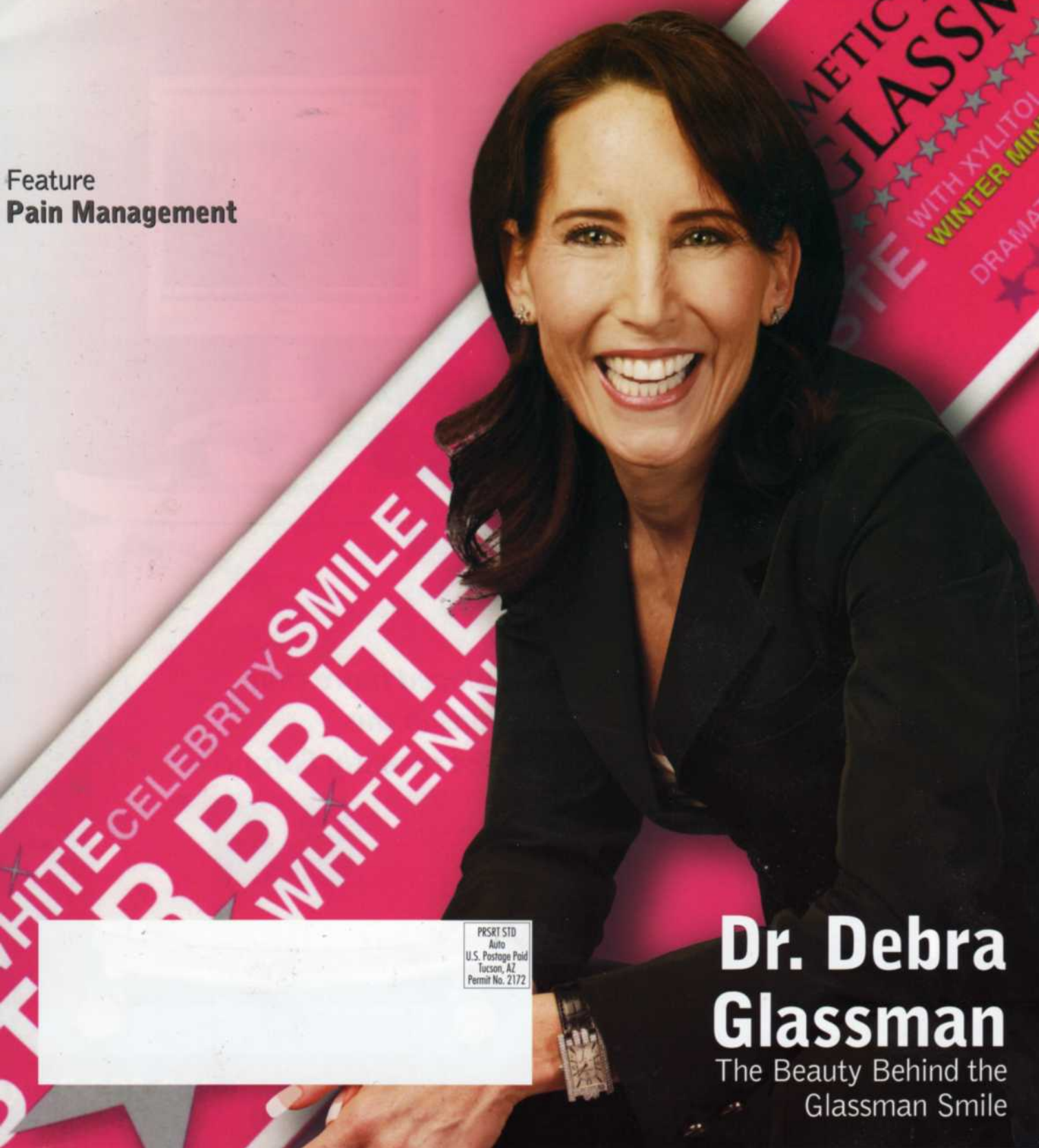


# DOCTOR of DENTISTRY

A BUSINESS AND LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE FOR DENTISTS

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**Pain Management**



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## Dr. Debra Glassman

The Beauty Behind the  
Glassman Smile

# contents

VOL. 3, NO. 6

## 4 COVER STORY

### DR. DEBRA GLASSMAN

The long-awaited sequel to the Glassman Dental Care story has arrived. Don't miss it.

## 14 FEATURE

### PAIN MANAGEMENT

Some of the new approaches and agents that will make dental pain management easier and more effective

## DEPARTMENTS

2 from the publisher

3 finance

11 dental case studies

17 tax-savvy tips

18 news

19 current topics



ON THE COVER  
Dr. Debra Glassman



14

# Dr. Debra Glassman

## The Beauty Behind the Glassman Smile

By Mark Ellis

This time last year we featured Dr. Steven Glassman as our cover story. As promised, we will devote this cover story to his wife, Dr. Debra Glassman. To some this might seem like a lot of ink to allocate to a single practice. Before interviewing the Glassmans, I might have been inclined to agree, but over the next few pages it will become very evident why Dr. Debra Glassman is cover story material ... and more.

### AN EARLY START

Born and bred in Brooklyn, NY, Dr. Glassman's introduction to the field of dentistry came at the tender age of 15, when she worked as a dental assistant for her family dentist. Commenting on the impression he made on her, she says, "He inspired me. I just loved the whole field. I used to run the front desk, run the whole office and assist. I just loved seeing the work he was doing and the transformations he performed on his patients even at that time, which was before whitening and veneers. It was at that time that he encouraged me to go to dental hygiene school. I discussed the matter with my parents, but I really only wanted to be a dental assistant because I was graduating early from high school and I just wanted to work. My father insisted that I go to school and so I went to New York City Technical School, which had a two-year dental hygienists program. After completing that program, I worked for two years in the city as a dental hygienist." With a solid career as a dental hygienist at age 19, an age when many are still wondering which career path to pursue, a young Dr. Glassman was now contemplating her next move in dentistry. It was at that time that she decided to go back to school and pursue an undergraduate degree at Columbia University. "During my first year at Columbia," Dr. Glassman says, "I began inquiring about the prerequisites for going to NYU Dental School. I had determined that if I was going to dental school that I would go to NYU." The reason? "It



was a big facility with a lot of students and was associated with a lot of hospitals in the area. I also felt that their curriculum was very well rounded." It certainly didn't hurt that Dr. Glassman also received encouragement from many dentists she had worked with who were also connected with the university.

It was a Friday afternoon when young Dr. Glassman visited the dean of admissions at New York University College of Dentistry regarding entrance requirements for their dental program. Recounting the experience, Dr. Glassman says, "I spoke with Dean Colburn and I told him that basically all I had known since I was 15 years old was dentistry and teeth. He told me that I was on the right track and to finish up my prerequisites, take the DATs and he would be happy to invite me if I got everything done. I finished up at Columbia, did well on all my tests and applied to NYU. I started dental school the following year."

### JUGGLING MARRIAGE, MOTHERHOOD AND DENTAL SCHOOL

Though Dr. Glassman met Steven Glassman while

**B**asically all I have known since I was 15 years old was dentistry and teeth.

— Dr. Debra Glassman

