

pitching wedge and then a sand wedge from the bag. "I usually start doing smaller chip shots," he said, but this time he went right to short pitches. He lofted a ball thirty-five yards. Tabick watched the ball's arc. "Left foot flatter, please."

After a few more short shots, Jared thwacked the ball to the fifty-yard marker. "There you go!" Tabick said. "Dead-solid perfect."

Jared switched to his driver and talked about his social situation. "I would never consider myself a jock," he said. Like his character, he had a hard time fitting in, in fourth and fifth grades, but in sixth grade he switched to a new school, Newark Academy. "Now I'm more chatty," he said. He has a pack of guy friends—chess enthusiasts—whom he sits with at lunch. "I'm not that good at chess, but I find it interesting," he said. He always eats the same thing: a Nutella sandwich.

Jared lugged his clubs to a putting green, where he made a halting stroke. Tabick shook his head. "Let it swing."

Jared is a movie buff, and in third grade he began taking acting lessons. Anderson picked him out of a casting call of thousands. "He had these glasses that he used to wear, with a Kareem Abdul-Jabbar strap around the back," Anderson recalled. "And his hair was long and kind of puffy. He didn't look like anyone would look in 1965, but visually he had so much charm."

The film's two stars, Jared and thirteen-year-old Kara Hayward, showed up for work a month early. (On the day Jared left school, his science class serenaded him with "So Long, Farewell," from "The Sound of Music.") The two kids rehearsed the entire movie except for one part: a fairly advanced kissing scene, which Anderson wanted to be spontaneous. Jared said that he wasn't nervous—"By then, I'd gotten to know Kara, Wes, and the entire crew." Nevertheless, he confirmed that the kiss was his first.

Jared hit another putt. It made a delicate *ping* and rolled to the flag. He smiled. "I felt like I hit it with enough speed, and my aim was fairly accurate," he said.

Anderson thinks that Jared might have a future as a director. When the lesson was over, Jared went back to the Hyatt, where his father took out an iPhone and played an action sequence that his son had filmed, a parody of "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly," called "The Good, the Bad

and the Jared." Jared watched it, and noticed that he'd had something on his face during filming. "That was right after I ate lunch," he said. "I didn't realize I still had this bit of Nutella on my lip."

—Lizzie Widdicombe

BRAVE NEW WORLD DEPT. EVOLUTION



Evan Wolfson, the founder and president of Freedom to Marry, a leading advocacy group for same-sex marriage, found out some time ago that he would be receiving a "medal of distinction" at the Barnard College commencement this year. Then, a few weeks before the ceremony, he learned that one of his fellow-honorees would be President Obama, who would also be giving a speech. At the time, Obama's views on marriage equality were said to be "evolving." The possibility of seeing the President set Wolfson thinking about what he might say if they had a chance to chat.

At fifty-five, Wolfson is bald, goateed, and roundish, and he possesses an air of perpetual amusement, which has come in handy in his contentious line of work. "I know I would have said thank you for all he's done already," Wolfson said the other day. "But I also would have said that he needed to finish his journey and join the majority of people in the country on the issue. At least, that was my idea."

In the eighties, when Wolfson was a student at Harvard Law School, he took John Boswell's book "Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality" with him on a vacation to visit his grandparents in Florida. "On the beach, I covered up the book jacket, because I didn't want to freak them out," he said. "I had just come out not too long before, and that book told me that homosexuality was not hated, despised, and subordinated through all of history. And I got the idea that, if it had been better at one time, it could be better again." In 1983, he wrote his final paper in law school, about same-sex marriage. "A lot of the professors, even the liberals, wouldn't even work with me on it," he said. "It was just considered too weird and peripheral to take seriously."

In 2003, after several years as a prosecutor, Wolfson founded Freedom to Marry, at a time when not a single state had legalized same-sex marriage. "The idea behind what we do is to build public support for the freedom to marry, win in more states, and get rid of the so-called Defense of Marriage Act," he said. By the standards of social movements, progress has been fast. Same-sex marriage is now legal in six states and the District of Columbia, and polls generally show that around half the population supports it. "We've gone from most people thinking our success was impossible to most people thinking it's inevitable," Wolfson said. "Neither is true, actually. Our challenge now is to make sure we still do the work."

He went on, "First, people said we'd never win in court, and then we won in Massachusetts. Then they said we'd never win in a state legislature, and we won in New York and Connecticut. Now they say we can never win a referendum with voters." (To date, voters in thirty-two states have rejected same-sex marriage in referendums.) "This November, we're on the ballot in Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, and Washington State, and we'll prove we can win that way, too."

Last Monday, Wolfson's husband, Cheng He (married six months ago), his parents (married fifty-seven years ago), and his brother and sister took their places under tents on the Columbia campus. The atmosphere was especially festive, because a few days earlier Obama had completed his evolution and was now a supporter of same-sex marriage. The day's demographic seemed much more Morningside Heights than swing voter, and every reference to marriage equality drew whoops of support from the gowned graduates.

When Judith Kaye (Barnard '58), the former chief judge of the New York Court of Appeals, introduced Wolfson and called him "the hero of the charge for marriage equality," the cheers were nearly as loud as those for Obama. "We shook hands four times, twice backstage and twice during the ceremony," Wolfson said of the President. "I told him thank you for what he had done. But he said thank you to me, too. It seemed like he meant it. There was meaningful eye contact. It was a moment."

—Jeffrey Toobin