In Oregon a ballot measure to legalize marijuana failed on November 6, 2012. In Colorado marijuana was legalized for recreational use that same day. In the political hockey game of marijuana legalization journalists serve as something of a referee. Just as different referees can interpret the rulebook different ways, different news outlets often frame a public policy issue different ways. This study was a frame analysis of 75 television news stories from nine stations in Colorado, eleven stations in Oregon in addition to the Cable News Network (CNN). The frames used included: regulations on marijuana similar to ones on alcohol, controversial legislation, community impact, economic issue, electoral prospects, public health and safety issue, libertarian, outsider’s perspective, horserace coverage. Journalists’ use of these frames helped construct relative legitimacy around the debate over Amendment 64 and Measure-80. Frames are necessary to tell stories effectively and help viewers give meaning to an event or a series of events. To tell a story without a frame suggests the possibility of a single universal truth about a series of events and description of a place, which any idealist would immediately dismiss. How journalists construct frames will shape how media users construct the world they co-create (Kovach & Rosenstiel, 2007). For that reason, it is valuable to study the frames used in television news stories about marijuana in Oregon and Colorado. This study found television stations in Colorado framed the debate over “pro-pot” legislation through following frames: controversial legislation, regulations on marijuana similar to the ones on alcohol, economic. Oregon stations used horse race or electoral prospects, impact on Oregon’s health and safety, and economic frames. CNN used economic, outsider’s perspective, libertarian and horserace frame.