

# Etheridge saved by smoking pot

By **ROBIN MIZRAHI**

**R**aspy-voiced rocker Melissa Etheridge has confessed to getting high on pot to relieve the excruciating pain she suffered during chemotherapy.

The 44-year-old Come To My Window singer said she couldn't have survived her breast cancer ordeal without marijuana.

She added in an interview: "The chemotherapy takes you as far down into hell as you've ever, ever been. Every single one - from the surgeons to the oncologist - was, 'Oh, yeah, that [marijuana] is the best help for the effects of chemotherapy.'"

The gay Grammy award-winning artist was diagnosed with cancer a



**DRUG CURE:** Melissa on stage and, left, after chemo

year ago after she discovered a lump in her left breast, but is now cancer free. Melissa's home state of California permits using pot for medicinal purposes, but federal law bans it. She could have been prosecuted.

She said: "I didn't worry. It was worth it."