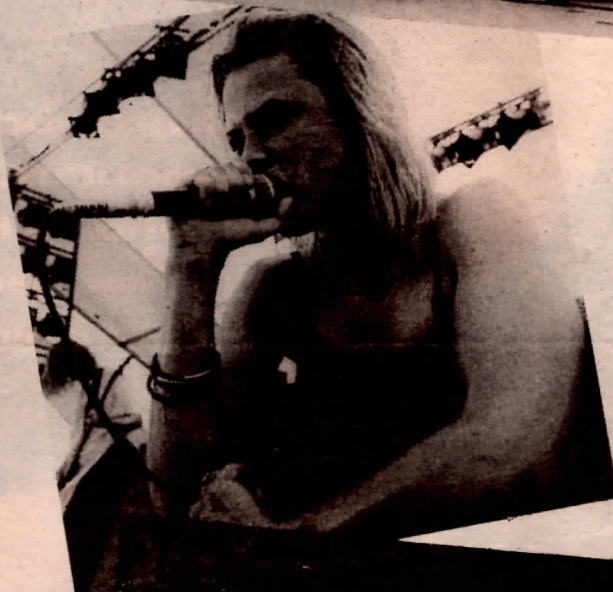
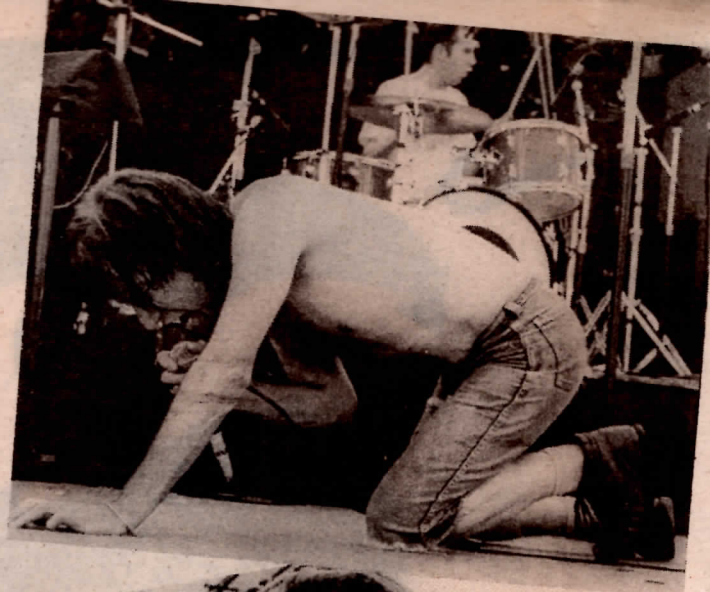


LIVID



Clockwise from Top Left
 Tex Perkins - Cruel Sea
 Ron Peno - Died Pretty
 Fione Horne - DEF FX
 Nick Cave
 Michelle Shocked
 PHOTOS : NICK WALSH

This year's Livid Festival saw twenty bands covering two stages, a tent for performance artists, markets, information stalls, sculptures, an evening gas fire display and a gyroscope. Many chose to spend their twelve hours at the main stage, (two stages created an agony of choice), therefore unfortunately missing the likes of **TUMBLEWEED**, **SMUDGE**, **YOU AM I** and **CUSTARD**. Fine performances on the day also came from a diverse range of local acts including **CALIGULA**, **THE MEANIES** and **SCREAMFEEDER**. Mainstage, **THE WELCOME MAT** more than adequately started the ball rolling before an impressive performance from **DEF FX**, enduring the kind of heat that was light years away from the American winter they had left just over 48 hours before. **DIED PRETTY** paved the way for the power-buzz pop of North Carolina's **SUPERCHUNK**, who blended attractive naivete with adolescent aggression. What was looking increasingly like a hippie-fest became a Hoe-Down when **MICHELE SHOCKED** and band took the stage, with **CRUEL SEA** keeping the country alive and kicking after them. **DAVE GRANEY'S** unfortunate competition with the sonic assault of **SCREAMFEEDER** marred an otherwise moving performance before darkness and smoke heralded the intense ethereal pop of **LUSH**. **THE CLOUDS** saw Trish managing to avoid electrocution while showcasing some post-**OCTOPUS** material. **NICK CAVE**, of course, merely sang about electrocution during a stand-out rendition of **THE MERCY SEAT**. The night belong to **THE BAD SEEDS**, of course, but the event itself was testimony to the organisation skills of promoter **PETER WALSH**, who after five years has established **LIVID** as a major event on the Australian live calendar.

RICHARD ANDERSON