

Leigh Jones entertains Soldiers, family members

Recording artist Leigh Jones, who headlined the Army's recent I.A.M. Strong tour, visited Baumholder March 16 and performed a free concert at the Wagon Wheel Theater for Soldiers and family members. Jones was humbled to have headlined the tour that visited 24 Army installations in two months.

"I love to meet these men and women face to face and shake their hands and look right into their eyes and just thank them for all they have done for us," said Jones and that is exactly what she did while at Baumholder. She greeted Soldiers at the Heart of the Rock dining facility, gave out autographs and then paid a special visit to the Warrior Transition Unit where she performed a couple of songs exclusively for the Soldiers there and then held another meet and greet session and signed autographs.

Of course, there was also another meet and greet session after the concert that also featured performances by a comedian and a hip hop group.

The concert tour and comedy show was designed to raise awareness about the prevention of sexual assault and harassment among Soldiers and military Family members. "We want to encourage people to be strong," Jones said. "We want to encourage the prevention of suicide and sexual harassment. We hear that's a big thing among Soldiers, which is such a shame. We just



Photos by Ignacio "Igggy" Rubalcava

At left jazz and blues recording artist Leigh Jones sings a couple of songs for the Soldiers at Baumholder's Warrior Transition Unit. Above, Jones and the other I.A.M. STRONG tour performers sign autographs at the WTU.

want people to stay positive," said Jones.

The I.A.M. STRONG acronym stands for intervene, act and motivate others to stop sexual harassment, assaults and sexually offensive language, innuendo

and gestures that create an environment friendly to abuse. Tolerant of these acts among troops has been reduced to zero, Army leaders say. Strong, quite simply, is the Army way.