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Local students plan one-day strike, rally for “Books Not Bombs” on March 5th

Grass Valley: Students from Sierra College will be participating in a one day national student strike called “Books not Bombs” together with campuses across the country. Organizers from Sierra Students for CHANGE are urging fellow Sierra College students to show their opposition to the war by refusing to attend classes on Wednesday, March 5th. A rally will be held on campus that day from 9 to 5 to encourage education and awareness of the impact of war on student concerns, such as the state budget crises, public safety, and civil liberties. The rally will feature educational speakers, local musicians, teach-ins, and tables with information on opportunities for student-led change. Students at the Rocklin campus are organizing and efforts are being made to involve the Truckee campus as well.

The rally will be held in the upper campus in front of the bell tower. All members of the public are invited; participants are encouraged to bring a bag lunch and stay for the whole day.

The Nevada County students join with students from California to Maine who are mobilizing for a National Student Strike against Bush’s threatened war on Iraq. Hundreds of high schools, colleges and universities are organizing for the March 5th strike. Plans for the strike include walk-outs, rallies, teach-ins, and civil disobedience actions on some campuses. Students are calling on Congress and the President to invest in education instead of squandering resources on a misguided war in Iraq. Strikers decry administration refusal to help states avoid tuition hikes and education spending cuts spurred by severe state budget shortfalls.

“Hundreds of thousands of letters and phone calls have been made to the White House and Congress which have been virtually ignored. We are choosing to strike on March 5th to turn the volume up so our voices will be heard,” said student Darlene Loyd, President of Sierra Students for CHANGE, a new student club based at the Grass Valley campus.

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