Susan LaFernier, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community President, stands in front of the State Capitol in Lansing (photographed Dec. 7, 2005), after speaking out in opposition to the proposed Kennecott mine.

The proposed site for this highly controversial project lies in Ceded Territory, where the Ojibwe have the rights to hunt, fish, and gather. Also, the KBIC tribe’s sacred Eagle Rock is at risk.

LaFernier and others seek protection for our native and U.P. cultures.

Deadline for comments on Kennecott’s application and for written comment on the five DEQ/DNR permits is Oct. 17.

For more information see savethewildup.org

Dr. Stephanie McKenzie, formerly an Assistant Professor in the English Department at NMU, recently left to take up a position as Assistant Professor in the English Department of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, Memorial University, Newfoundland, Canada. Dr. McKenzie came to Northern from Canada a year ago. She will teach Canadian Prose and Introduction to Literature in her new position this fall. She plans to concentrate on Canadian Literature, including Native Canadian Literature in English as areas of focus and teaching in the future. Dr. McKenzie’s book, Before the Country: Native Renaissance, Canadian Mythology was published in August of this year. It explores the extent to which a growing body of Aboriginal literature has influenced non-Native Canadian writers and has been fundamental in shaping Canadians’ search for a national mythology. Dr. McKenzie hopes to do research in Labrador on the literature of the Inuit and Innu in the future. Everyone at the Center for Native American Studies misses Stephanie and hopes to continue to work with her, albeit from afar, in the future.