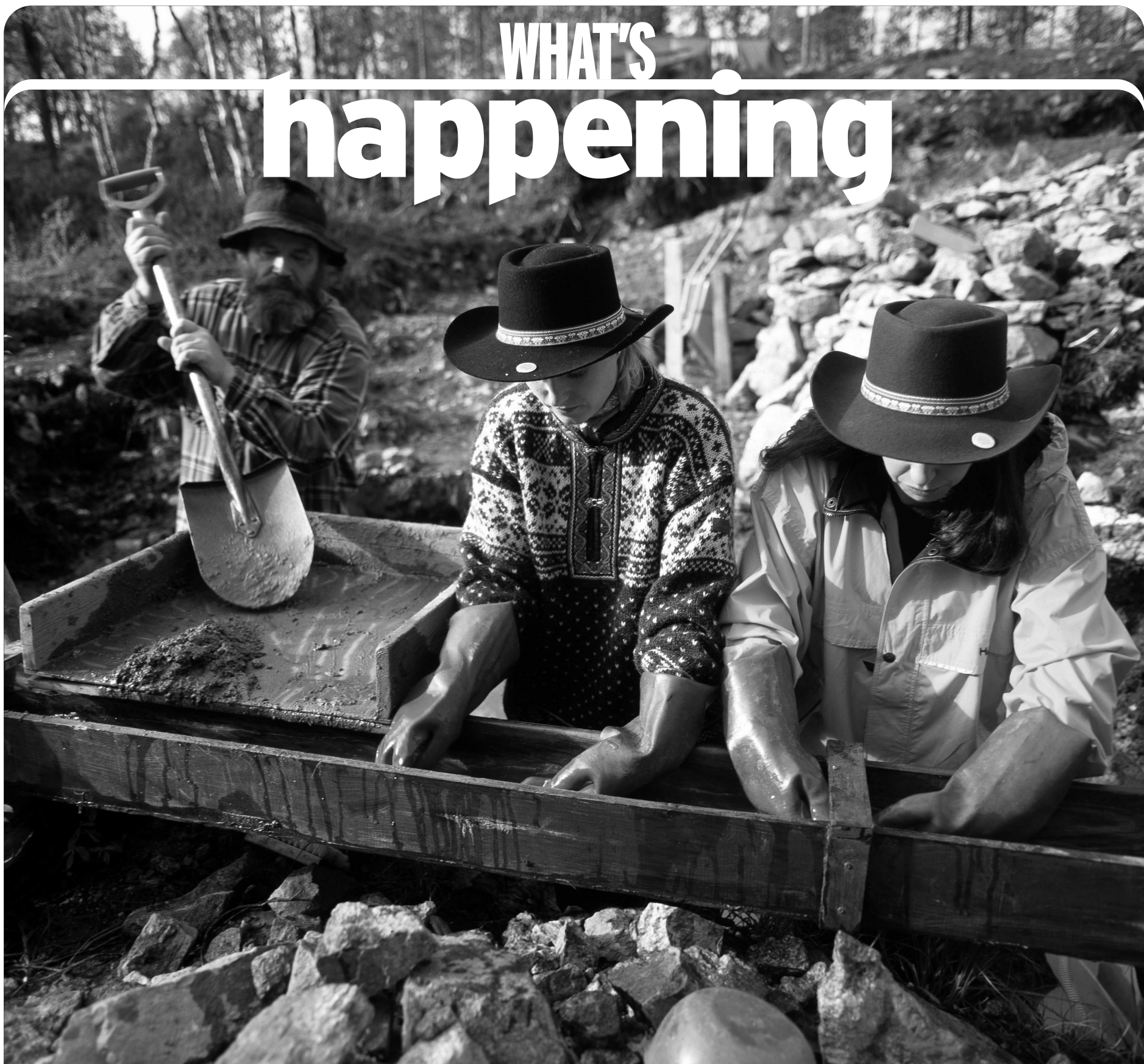


WHAT'S happening



Panning for gold in the Cottage Grove region? Back in 1902, when there were more than 2,000 mining claims along the Row River Valley, you might have had a fighting chance. Though you might not find many of the precious nuggets these days (though true-blooded miners like those pictured above will still try), during this week's **Bohemia Mining Days** you're sure to find carnivals, parades, food booths, art shows, cherry spitting contests, movies in the park, shadow puppetry and, yes, you can even watch a gold panning demo and let gold fever run its course through your veins. A highlight this year will be a Battle of the Bands event, sure to showcase a stellar lineup of up and coming musicians. See Thursday, July 19 Calendar.

Eugene's streak of visiting guitar virtuosos just keeps extending itself. This week the Austin, Tex.-based **Monte Montgomery** (pictured left) plays a well-heeled show in the intimate setting of John Henry's. We realize it's a little odd to describe JH's as "intimate," but in comparison to the Hult Center, Secret House Winery, The Cuthbert or the sprawling Oregon Country Fair site, the Henry feels like a welcome refuge from the summer festival madness. And Montgomery is the kind of guitar maestro and vocalist who can light up the stage with his road-tested melodies. His claim to fame – not that fame is Montgomery's goal – was winning his fourth consecutive title as best acoustic guitarist at the 2001 SXSW Festival in Austin. See Wednesday Calendar.

Will *somebody please* think of the children?! Oh, here we go. Children get their due this summer in the annual **Children's Celebration** at Island Park, a day-long festival of hands-on activities for the children (or inner child) in our lives. According to the press release, whether the tykes are "patting a pony, stroking a snake, or touching a truck," they'll have their hands full of fun. Entertainers like Sir Readalot, juggler Tom Question and magician Dr. Delusion's Illusions are featured on the stage in addition to the Just for Kids Talent Show, guaranteed to reveal tomorrow's talented and gifted youth. Just remember that parking will be tight at Island Park, so park in downtown Springfield and hop the free shuttle at 5th and South A Street. See Saturday Calendar.

