

# Housing Market Sees Hopeful Signs of Spring

By Kris  
Hudson

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—The spring home-selling season is off to a promising start in this military port city, sparking optimism here and in other cities that the market has finally gained momentum after a slow recovery and last year's stall.

The downturn was brutal for Jacksonville; home sales sank and foreclosures were running at high levels during the crisis. But in recent months, home sales have shot up, the percentage of distressed...