startUpdateStockQuoteInterval function. If the check box becomes unchecked in response to a user’s click, then the automatic refreshing is disabled by calling the clearStockTickerUpdateInterval function.

The implementation for automatically refreshing the weather forecast and headline news components is similar to what was described for the stock quote component. As you can see, the automatic refreshing is not terribly difficult to implement. The key is breaking tasks out into small, reusable functions and then building on top of those reusable functions. The entire file is less than 40 lines long. Better yet, thanks to the Taconite framework, only five lines of JavaScript are necessary to perform the Ajax request!

Building a Better Autocomplete

Chapter 4 demonstrated how to build a simple autocomplete feature in which a drop-down list would appear with a list of suggestions each time the user typed into a text box, à la Google Suggest.

The search component of the Ajax Dashboard builds on this example. Unlike the example from Chapter 4, which used hard-coded search “results,” this example uses the Yahoo! Search API to perform the search. The Ajax Dashboard also uses the Taconite framework to build the search results.

Listing 8-13 is an excerpt from the autoComplete.html example from Chapter 4. The function shown in Listing 8-13 is the function responsible for building the results drop-down list.

Listing 8-13. Excerpt of autoComplete.html Example from Chapter 4

```javascript
function setNames(the_names) {
  clearNames();
  var size = the_names.length;
  setOffsets();

  var row, cell, txtNode;
  for (var i = 0; i < size; i++) {
    var nextNode = the_names[i].firstChild.data;
    row = document.createElement("tr");
    cell = document.createElement("td");
    cell.onmouseout = function() {this.className='mouseOver';};
    cell.onmouseover = function() {this.className='mouseOut';};
    cell.setAttribute("bgcolor", "#FFFAFA");
    cell.setAttribute("border", "0");
    cell.onclick = function() { populateName(this); } ;
    txtNode = document.createTextNode(nextNode);
    cell.appendChild(txtNode);
    row.appendChild(cell);
    nameTableBody.appendChild(row);
  }
}
```