Figure 5-12:
Nice design
integration
and a
custom
Search
button, to
boot.

Building Your Own Google Site

The ultimate extension of Google Free is the construction of an entire site dedicated to Google search. This ambitious task is best accomplished as a third-party Google interface developer, an avocation Google encourages.

Google offers software developers a free license to access the Google Web index. This license enables alternate Google sites to deliver Google search results through new interfaces. Developers download a software kit that includes the Google Web API (Application Programming Interface). An API is necessary whenever one program or Web site hooks into a necessary under-lying system, such as Google or the Windows operating system. If your computer runs Windows, every application program you have uses the Windows API. Similarly, every alternate Google interface uses the Google API.

Entrepreneurial developers can use Google's Application Programming Interface (API) to query the Google index from their own programs. The details of doing so are beyond the scope of this book. For more information, go here:

```
http://www.google.com/apis/index.html
```