

NOTES

For the quarter ended Sept. 30, Compass reported net income of \$5.5 million, or 17 cents a share, compared with a loss of \$6.3 million, or 21 cents a share, a year ago. Sales for the quarter increased to \$111.7 million from \$97.1 million.

For the first nine months, Compass reported net income of \$29.9 million, or 93 cents a share, on sales of \$459.1 million, up from \$15.1 million, or 64 cents a share, on sales of \$398.5 million during the same period in 2003.

— *The Star*

Magazine honors Sprint

Sprint Corp. has ranked second on a list compiled by *G.I. Jobs* magazine of the country's most military-friendly companies.

The list, released in time for Veterans Day, credited the Overland Park-based telecommunications company with having comprehensive programs for hiring and recruiting military personnel and their spouses. The magazine praised Sprint for, among other things, transition assistance programs that it offers newly hired veterans.

Sprint also was second in the magazine's rankings last year. This year the magazine named Home Depot the most military-friendly

employer. Home Depot ranked fourth on last year's list.

Other companies ranking in the top five this year were General Electric, Brink's and Johnson Controls.

— *Suzanne King/The Star*

NovaStar offering

Mortgage lender NovaStar Financial Inc. said it expected to raise \$60 million to \$70 million in a common stock offering of 1.5 million shares at \$42.50 a share.

The Kansas City-based company said it had granted the underwriters an option, exercisable for 30 days, to purchase up to 225,000 additional shares to cover any over-allotments.

The proceeds will be used to fund additional mortgage originations and build NovaStar's mortgage portfolio.

JMP Securities LLC will be the lead managing underwriter of the stock offering. Flagstone Securities LLC will be the co-manager.

NovaStar, which was founded in 1996, went public in 1997 with a \$65 million initial public offering. Earlier this year, it raised about \$72 million through a preferred stock offering.

Shares in NovaStar stock lost 23 cents Wednesday, closing at \$42.84.

— *Dan Margolies/The Star*