

Abesque Variations' originality lifts spirits

By **Angie Goettsch**
Staff Reporter

Abesque, meaning light and airy, does not apply only to Arabian horses. The term also can be used to describe dance and music. That's why the Schemnikaus decided to call their new shop Abesque Variations. Originally a studio for voice and piano lessons, Abesque Variations, 701 P St., has

expanded to include a boutique which features music, horse and dance items. "Many people wanted to take voice and piano lessons. The space was available, and with the positive response to the studio, we were happy to also provide specialty items to customers," Marty Schemnikau said. She and her husband, Burt Schemnikau, are co-owners. Abesque Variations has been open since the second week of July.

"The response has been wonderful," Marty said. "With a dance studio across the hall (Dancerschool), it seemed like the perfect idea. People come from all over for the fitness clothes, jazz, tap and ballet items. Lots of people just like to be fit." The Schemnikaus are happy with the shop's location in the Haymarket. "This just seemed to be the place for us," she said. "We love the Haymarket, the variety of

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MARTY SCHERNIKAU
Co-owner of Abesque Variations



Tiffani Schemnikau, an employee at Abesque Variations, displays some of the dance apparel that the store sells. Jay Calderon/DN

people and the city atmosphere. We wouldn't want to be anywhere else." They also had little trouble coming up with a name for the studio. "We owned the Abesque Arabian Horse Training Center in Lincoln for about 20 years, so people can relate to the name," Marty said. Their past business experience is also evident in their new venture. Posters, paintings and clothing pertaining to horses are sprinkled throughout the shop. "This part of the boutique is really stressed," Schemnikau said, "It is hard to find horse clothing and gifts in Lincoln." But not all items in the store deal with music, dance and horses. Stationery, figurines, T-shirts and jewelry are scattered from wall to wall. "We also have seasonal items," she said. "Right now we are featuring many nutcrackers, because the Midwest Ballet performs 'The Nutcracker' every year for Christmas. Aside from the standard nutcrackers, we also sell German musical nutcrackers which are hand-carved from wood." "We sell some consigned items, too, like postcards, prints, incense and earrings. Most of them are based on the music, dance and horse theme of the store." Schemnikau also said that Michigan Rags, a line of unisex apparel, would be featured in the shop soon. "I think this type of clothing will spark the interest of students. I don't think they really know about us yet," Schemnikau said. Although Abesque Variations is available for everyone to visit, the studio is booked. "Burt's schedule is really full," she said. "If you want to take lessons, I would suggest getting your name on a waiting list."

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Attention Jewish Students: You are invited to attend High Holiday Services at Tifereth Israel Synagogue, 3219 Sheridan Blvd. Please call 423-8569 for home hospitality or service times.

ATTENTION SPORT CLUBS

All members of Campus Recreation Sport Clubs must attend a **Sport Clubs Participation Physical** to be a participant of this program. **MEN'S: MONDAY, SEPT. 12 from 1:00pm-4:00pm; WOMEN'S: MONDAY, SEPT. 19 from 1:00pm-4:00pm.** If you are participating or intend to this semester you must attend. Call 472-3467, 7:30am-5:30pm to schedule an appointment.

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