Darzs’ final performance
Philharmonic season ends

By Karen Moody
Downtown Post Press

It was an emotional evening at the Township Auditorium Monday night. The program consisted of music by Karl Goldmark, Alexander Glazunov, Johannes Brahms, and Zoltan Kodaly, and featured such soloists as Lanny Palmer, Gene Ferguson, Richard Comal, and Evelyn McGarrity, as well as the USC Concert Choir on Kodaly’s “Te Deum.”

The second piece, “Concerto for Violin” (op. 82) and “Orchestra” was played by soloist Ired Smith and the orchestra. It consisted of three movements, but there was no pause between them, and there was an unusual twist to keep things interesting.

The high point of the evening was the closing piece, from Dr. Darzs’ homeland, Hungary. It was “Te Deum” by Zoltan Kodaly. The work was originally commissioned in 1938 to celebrate the release of the Hungarian from Turkish domination in 1868. It is full of the motifs of destruction and determined rebuilding. The USC Concert Choir, which is also directed by Dr. Darzs, sang the work, which is in the majority a choral work with a few soloists.

The performance was very well received, and Dr. Darzs and his two groups got a standing ovation for almost ten minutes. As is typical of Darzs that, embarrassed by the admiring hand claps, he tried to shift the spotlight from himself to an exceptional member of the orchestra. It was a beautiful and touching evening, with both the choir and the orchestra giving their best performance to do honor to the man who has done so much for them.

Caldwell death postpones tour
SPARTANBURG, S.C. (AP) Tommy Caldwell, bass player for the popular Marshall Tucker Band, died Monday of injuries received in a traffic accident. He was 30.

A spokesman for Spartanburg General Hospital said Caldwell died about 4 a.m. He had been listed in critical condition with head injuries since last Tuesday, when his four-wheel-drive vehicle flipped over after hitting a stalled car on a Spartanburg street.

The spokesman said Caldwell’s condition had deteriorated over the last couple of days. “He is completely incapacitated,” he said. “They were expecting him to come through this.”

Caldwell’s brother, Tim, 34, died last month in a traffic accident. Tim Caldwell was not a musician, but another brother, Tom, is lead singer and guitarist for the band.

BAND MEMBER George McCormick said, “Our plans are up in the air now. We have canceled our performances through May and probably most of the other dates.” on a spring Midwestern tour scheduled to begin Wednesday. Ron Needham, who works for the country-rock band, said, “The band hasn’t considered any other business. Their thoughts are only with Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell.”

Earlier, a band spokesman said the group might not make appearances for three or six months. “Everything’s at a standstill right now,” he said. “It’s going to take us a period of time to adjust.”

THE BAND had been touring 200 nights a year. An album, Tex, was released by Warner Brothers earlier this year.

The group was invited to play at several U.S. sites following President Carter’s 1977 inauguration.

Survivors are Caldwell’s widow, Melody Ann Hope Caldwell of Woodruff, his parents, Toy and Virginia Caldwell, of Walnut Grove, and his brother, Toy, of Spartanburg.

A small private funeral was scheduled for noon Tuesday at Greenlawn Chapel on East Main Street. The family asked for contributions to be made to the neurological unit of Spartanburg General Hospital in lieu of flowers.

A Spartanburg man, Richard Johnson, was charged with improper parking the day after Caldwell’s vehicle struck Robinson’s car and overturned. Robinson was in the car but was not injured.

Caldwell was an accomplished musician who played bass for the popular Marshall Tucker Band.

NATIONAL GUARD Spc. Michael R. Gomber, 20, of Spartanburg, was killed in a traffic accident last month. He had been listed in critical condition with head injuries since last Tuesday, when his four-wheel-drive vehicle flipped over after hitting a stalled car on a Spartanburg street.

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