Progress in education
The lack of public discussion of the Report of the Committee of Inquiry into Education and Training has been quite remarkable. One of its most radical recommendations is that consideration be given to developing programs for university teachers designed to increase their skills in teaching, curriculum development and examining, and that successful participation in such programs become a normal condition of tenured appointment. Although there is no reason why such provisions should be restricted to the most junior staff members, this recommendation at least marks a large step forward from previous policies.

Earlier inquiries into tertiary education tended to be heavily concerned with proposals for expanding the system and the consequent problem of finding sufficient numbers of staff. The Williams Committee, by contrast, focused upon ways of improving the process of education rather than the structure of institutions. It identified as central to the success of this process the professional development of the teaching staff.

The Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee is to be commended for acting promptly on the recommendation that it establish a working party to examine what needs to be done in this vitally important area.

Dr J. P. POWELL
University of NSW
Sydney NSW

An earlier champion
I refer to your issue of May 1 and in particular to the article “Skating First” under “Sport” on page 21.

Your reporting is not quite true. Robyn Burley is the first Australian to win a Solo championship; however, my daughter Caroline Richardson with her partner won the World Pairs Championship in 1975.

In fairness to my daughter, I request that you put the record straight and maintain your high degree of correct reporting.

CHAS. W. RICHARDSON
Cheltenham Vic

Adams was spot on
Thanks to Phillip Adams for his thoughts on “The dangerous pornography of death” (B, May 1).

For years there I was, bawling like mad for the anti-censorship league along with many others including, apparently, Mr Adams. At the time, I doubt that any of us realised the potential dangers from irresponsible film-makers after a quick buck.

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