

PLAYERS OF PROMISE AT HUNSLLET

WHEN ALAN Griffiths

turned out for Hunslet

last weekend it was his

50th first team appear-

ance and he became

eligible under his con-

tract for a £250 pay-

ment.

The payment brings to

between £900 and £1,000

the total paid out by the

club this season so far to

players two others before

Griffiths, who have quali-

fied for payments under

signing-on agreements.

This is a hefty chunk of

the club's total revenue from

games which, in round

figures, cannot be more than

about the £2,000 mark—of

Griffiths, who is 22, is a

very promising young player.

He was, for instance, the

No. 6 complementary tourna-

ment at Swinton to bear

comparison with the Swinton

forwards — and the club are

happy to hand him over his

£250 believing that he has

both earned it, and that he

will be an increasing asset.

The Swinton game was

nothing less than disastrous

for the Parkside brigade,

with Swinton running in

their 13 tries and topping the

50 pts. mark and by their

try-scoring making the

£1,000 consolation competi-

tion prize theirs.

The shortcomings of Huns-

let were pinpointed, though

it is but fair to add that the

team played below form and

that behind the beaten pack

it is unjust to make any

other than the old one of

criticism of the backs—

professional players should.

That criticism also applied

forward, and fans are getting

tired of hoping for improve-

ment — consistent improve-

ment, that is.

Pinpointed

There is continuing good

news of the progress of

Steve Hudson, though it is

doubtful whether he will be

considered match-fit after

his long lay off in time to

take part in the First team

Christmas holiday games at

Bramley on December 27.

Australian Peter Irvine

(stand-off) again, despite the

limited ball possession Huns-

let had, suggested at Swinton

that he will make good at

Parkside. It may well have

been that this past weekend

at Huyton Aussie winger

Eddie Kurtz also was in the

side.

Hunslet's sole December

home match is with Warring-

ton on Sunday, December 19.

By contrast, there are three

home fixtures in January—

Whitehaven on New Year's

Day, and Huddersfield and

Batley on Sundays January

16 and 23. In addition, Huns-

let might be lucky and get

a home draw for the opening

of the Rugby League cup

competition on Jan 29.

LESLIE TENNENT