

FRI FEB 6 - 1962

PROVIDENCE, R.I.— (P) — Providence College is back on the basketball tournament trail today because of a changed offense and some soul-searching by captain Jim Hadnot.

The defending NIT champions ran their winning streak to eight games last night, defeating LeMoyné 53-46 at Syracuse, N.Y.

The 6-foot-10 Hadnot was checked closely by a collapsing defense and took only six shots. But the role of the McClymonds High product allowed Ray Flynn room to hit 22 points.

But Hadnot has been the difference since he suddenly began playing with zest.

"I'm benefitting from the recent switch from the double

to the single pivot," Hadnot said. "When John Thompson (6-foot-11 sophomore) was playing a double pivot with me, I always was afraid of getting in his way."

The Friars (13-4), with each game, appear to be moving closer to an invitation to defend their crown at the NIT. Things weren't always so bright.

Providence began the season with a solid nucleus of talent. The Friars won five straight, then dropped four in a row during the Christmas holidays.

Coach Joe Mullaney mentioned a lot of reasons. The club was overrated, inconsistent, couldn't hang onto the ball and "we counted too much on Thompson who is

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not yet as good as we thought he was and who has been under terrific pressure."

Mullaney offered another reason:

"Hadnot is not as good as he was last year. He has gone back in ability to where he was as a sophomore and I don't know what to do about that."

Hadnot has found the answer for himself. Disturbed

by the fact he was scoring about 10 points and getting only a handful of rebounds a game, Hadnot thrashed out his problems.

Suddenly, against Niagara and St. Bonaventure recently, Hadnot ballooned to 28 points and 21 rebounds each outing.

"I was blaming myself for some of the games we lost and for looking bad even in

some games we won," Hadnot said. "I made up my mind to go full tilt in every game."

Hadnot said before the Canisius game he had an all-night talk with Rev. Richard Eleck.

"Afterward, I felt like a new man with no more thoughts of pushing the panic button," Hadnot said.