

Jim Hadnot JUL 9 1968 Signs Pact With Oaks

Jim (H a d n o t) last year's most valuable player and leader in virtually every offensive category, has signed his 1968 contract for what Oaks' Coach and Executive Vice - President Alex Hannum called "a nice raise."

Hadnot, 28, is the fourth veteran to sign with the American Basketball Association club. Previously inked were forwards Mel Peterson, Dave Lee and Ira Harge.

Hadnot, a former star at McClymonds High and an all - America for Providence, topped the Oaks in scoring with 1,344 points; in playing time with 3,002 minutes and field goal percentage at 47.

He averaged 17.5 points per game while hauling in second - best rebound total, 936 (12.2 average) in finishing in a fifth - place tie in the ABA with Austin (Red) Robbins of New Orleans.

Hadnot, who was second in Oakland assists and holds the high point mark for a single game at 41, has been working out most of the summer to quicken his reflexes and build stamina for the coming year.

"I expect to have my best year ever as a pro because of playing that full season last year," Hadnot said.

Hannum echoed Hadnot's outlook, saying "competition should be keen for that center position, because I intend to work in Harge along with our 6-11 rookie from Brigham Young, Jim Eakins, as Hadnot's backups."