

Name: _____

Date: _____



The Lakers began playing in Minneapolis, calling themselves the Minneapolis Lakers in honor of the state’s nickname, “Land of 10,000 Lakes”. Initially a member of the NBL, the Lakers won the 1948 NBL championship before joining the rival Basketball Association of America and winning five of the next six BAA and NBA championships in Minneapolis after the NBA formed in 1949. The team was propelled by center George Mikan, who is described by the NBA’s official website as the league’s “first superstar”. After struggling financially in the late 1950s following Mikan’s retirement, they relocated to Los Angeles before the 1960 - 61 season.

1. Where did the Lakers play first? _____

2. When did the Lakers win the championship? _____

3. Who played center for the team? _____

4. When did Mikan retire? _____
