Two brief reminiscences on the Windows XP "Comments?" button

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In beta versions of Windows XP, there was special code in the window manager to give every window a link in the upper right corner called "Comments?" which if clicked on displayed a dialog that allowed you to submit feedback to Microsoft about that window. Since this was a beta release, there was no anonymity when you submitted feedback. (You signed away your anonymity when you agreed to the special beta license agreement and typed in your beta ID number.) Yet we got more than one feedback submission that begin, "Hi, I pirated this copy of Windows XP, and here's some feedback."

In its initial incarnation, the word in the title bar was "Lame", but people with a weaker sense of humor changed it to the less confrontational "Comments?". The name "Lame" came from a recurring sketch on local comedy show _Almost Live!_ called "The Lame List, or What's Weak This Week (brought to you with the help of Seattle's Heavy Metal community)".

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