For 10 straight days, wastewater was dumped into Tampa Bay, less than a mile from the waterfront campus of USF St. Petersburg. Torrential rains that accompanied Hurricane Hermine overwheled St. Petersburg’s out-dated sewage treatment facilities, forcing the city to dump millions of gallons of untreated and partially treated sewage from its plant at Albert Whited Airport into a pipe that ended in the bay a quarter mile off the downtown shoreline.

The dumping finally ended on Sept. 9. But the environmental and political fallout have just begun.

What impact will there be on the quality of the water in Bayboro Harbor?

What will happen to the birds and marine life that depend on the bay?

And perhaps most important, could this happen again?

Dr. Robert Weisberg, an experimental physiologist and professor in the USFSP College of Marine Science, predicted that it will.

The city has an infrastructure problem, he said. Its four sewage treatment plants have a maximum capacity. When they are over-whelmed by heavy rain and flooding, he said, the city will be forced to dump the excess.

“A lot of people have immediately blamed the wastewater treatment plants,” said Dr. Monica Cook, an instructor in marine science. “But they (the plants) can only deal with what they’re designed to deal with. They have a maximum capacity.”

St. Petersburg was not the only government agency that experienced a sewage treatment crisis when Hermine brushed past as a tropical storm-turned-hurricane.

Pasco County, Clearwater, Largo, Pinellas County and Tampa were also forced to dump excess wastewater.

On Tuesday, Pinellas County legislators will discuss the issue at a workshop in the Karen A. Steidinger Auditorium in the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute on the USFSP campus. The meeting begins at 3 p.m.

The St. Petersburg City Council, which will discuss the issue again Thursday, is now sched-uled to spend $58 million next year and $100 million over three years upgrading its under-ground pipes and increasing capacity at its pro-cessing plants.

Meanwhile, the Department of Environmen-tal Protection is preparing an order that would require the city to fix the system or face fines, according to the Tampa Bay Times.

USFSP’s campus recreation suspended wa-terfront activities Sept. 5-6. The waterfront de-partment has not issued any official notice or warnings to students. Instead, campus rec em-ployees have warned patrons, who are renting equipment, of the influx of sewage in the water.

In the “70s it was quite a dirty body of wa-ter,” Weisberg said. “The worst thing we can do is have these raw sewage dumps. They take us back wards.”

Weisberg believes the dumping will contin-ue, and cited the fundamental infrastructure problems as a likelihood of a repeat incident.

Instead, he wants to know “how do we fix it?”

Weisberg said that tackling environmental issues of this magnitude requires a multidi-visory approach. For him, understanding the role that ocean currents play in the draining of organic waste from an estuary such as Tampa Bay is essential to truly comprehending the problem.

Tampa Bay has been in a state of recovery for decades.

Weisberg recalled when the counties were regularly dumping little more than raw sewage into the water.

“The degradation of the bloom is very harm-ful to the environment because it uses up oxy-gen,” Cook explained.

This can lead to massive fish kills.

Chemicals pose significant risks to both the organisms that live within the environment and humans.

“When I talk about chemicals, I’m talking about pharmaceutical compounds such as anti-biotics or synthetic compounds like microplas-tics,” Cook said.

Even treated sewage is not without its prob-lems.

“These chemicals of emerging concern tend not to be filtered out by wastewater treatment,” she said.

Microorganisms are bacteria, viruses, protozoa, eggs and more.

“There are other things that can be pathogenic or disease causing,” Cook said.

Clams, oysters, and other filter feeders can intiate these microorganisms and store them in their tissues, making them potentially harmful for human consumption.

“If you have a raw sewage dump, all of those things are now being introduced into the envi-ronment,” said Cook.

For Cook, correcting the problem starts with each of us.

“We have to educate ourselves. We need to learn what is appropriate to throw away, what is okay to be flushed. We have to learn the dif-ference,” Cook said.
**Florida Sex Education Leaves Students Unprepared**

By Alyssa Coburn
agcoburn@mail.usfsp.edu

Teaching sex education has been delegat-ed to science and physical education teach-ers, but in areas around Florida the lessons are limited to abstinence-only education.

There is no course content requirement for sex ed classes the state.

When it is covered, the curriculum focus-es on abstinence until marriage, sex within marriage and the negative outcomes of teen sex, according to a 2016 study by Guttmacher Institute on state laws and policies.

In Florida, by county, sub-jects like contraception, condoms, sexual orientation, avoiding coercion and healthy decision-making often get left out.

In 2015, Floridians ages 15-24 represented only 13 percent of the population, but accounted for 64 percent of reported cases of chlamydia, according to the Florida Department of Health. The same age group represented half of all new sexually transmitted disease (STD) cases nationwide each year.

The 2015 data also stated that despite abstinence education, some young people consider oral and anal sex to be abstinence behaviors and don’t realize that oral and anal sex can transmit STDs.

According to the 2016 study, out of the 24 states that mandate sexuality education, only 13 require it be medically accurate.

Florida does not appear on that list.

Summer Muhar, a freshman at USFSP, used the internet for all her unanswered questions.

"I'm a problem when you trust WebMD more than you trust the school system," said Muhar. Muhar was in a sex ed class, but the topics covered were only STDs and abstinence.

Sexual education is "inadequate," according to Dr. David Cimino, a pediatric special-ist in Pinellas County for over 20 years.

"It's their right to protect their reproduc-tive health," said Cimino, in regards to Flor-idia's youth. Cimino noted that the majority of teens he has worked with seem to be lack-ing basic knowledge regarding pregnancy, STDs, safe-sex and menstruation.

"They come in with an STD, and they don't know what a cervix is," said Cimino.

Cimino also noted that girls frequently misunderstand that pregnancy can occur during their first sexual experience. Accord-ing to Cimino, some teens believe drinking alcohol or douching with cola will abort an unwanted pregnancy.

The cola myth is about 60 years old, ac-cording to Shellia-Rea Gregg, a nurse who works in the School-Based Health Services Program.

"[Sex education] is stuck in the 1950's," said Gregg.

"The attitudes in society have changed, but not the education system, and that's the problem."

Angelica Ojeda, a sophomore biology stu-dent, is one of many students who didn't re-ceive any sex ed in school.

"[Sex education] is something you need to know growing up," said Ojeda. She said that she felt like she learned about sex as "later in life" than many of her classmates.

Jamie McKay, a junior psychology ma-jor, was taught sex ed in the sixth grade, before puberty. While McKay was taught about the ba-sics of puberty, her curriculum failed to answer why these changes were taking place.

"I was very uncomfortable with the sub-ject," said McKay.

"We've been saying for 20-something years that abstinence-only education doesn't work," said Victoria Beltran, the health edu-cator for the Wellness Center. Beltran holds a master's degree in public health and a cer-tification as a health education specialist.

"The system has been setting our youth up for failure," said Beltran.

Part of Beltran's responsibility is to teach students about safe sex. Beltran explained that the lack of sexual education in the pub-lic school system is apparent as teens enter college.

"My parents never gave me the talk," said Sarah Potts, a sophomore majoring in business. Potts is another student who didn't receive any sex ed in school. She ended up relying on Google to answer many of her questions.

Physical education coaches and science teachers tend to conduct sex ed classes with-out any specialized training, according to Beltran.

She specifically chose to work with col-lege students because of how restricting abstinence-only education can be. However, the current system makes her job difficult. Beltran is left scrambling, trying to ensure students have the appropriate information and resources to have a full and healthy life.

For students interested in comprehensive and thorough sexual education, Beltran will be teaching her very first academic course, "Human Sexuality," next semester.

Unlike their high school counterparts, col-lage students at USFSP have options.

The Wellness Center provides a variety of resources, including counseling and psycho-logical services, STD testing, contraception, counseling, immunization, physical exams and women's health. The Center also offers students free male and female condoms.

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**USFSP Ranked in Top 25 Best Colleges**

By Nikki Sawyer
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USF St. Petersburg is celebrating after be-ing ranked No. 24 among the top 25 South-ern Regional Public universities earlier this month. The university has been featured in the rankings, released by U.S. News & World Report, before.

Rankings criteria are based on graduation and first-year student retention rates, under-graduate academic reputations, faculty and financial resources, student selectivity, alumni gifts and graduation rate performances.

In addition to these criteria, the publication measured the student-faculty ratio. USFSP comes in at 17:1, with almost 30 percent of courses having 20 or fewer students.

This emphasis on small class sizes permits faculty to work closely with students and en-courage them in their studies.

Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska was pleased with the results.

"These rankings are a testament to our out-standing faculty and staff, to the educa-tion excellence they are delivering to our students," said Wisniewska.

Among both southern private and pub-lic regional universities, USFSP is ranked No.72.

Yahoo Finance ranked USF within the top 105 smartest colleges in the United States in September 2015.

The rankings help students compare academic qualities of over 1,800 American universities. Princeton University ranked first in the best national universities category. Williams College took top honors as the best national liberal arts college for the 14th consecutive year.

The list also aids students in researching schools that have the most campus ethnic diversity, economic diversity as well as amount of international students.

Other ranking categories include best colleges for veterans, historically black col-leges and universities and the most innova-tive schools.

In January of this year, U.S. News & World Report ranked USFSP's online MBA programs among the top in the nation.

With 167 colleges offering the course of study, USFSP ranked at No. 15 in the nation and second overall in the state of Florida, behind the University of Florida, making it among the top 10 percent of its kind.

Rankings for the MBA program list are based on five categories: student engage-ment, admissions selectivity, peer reputa-tion, faculty credentials and training and student services and technology.

USFSP ranked highest in faculty creden-tials and training, coming in third nationally.

U.S. News & World Report also ranked the Kate Tiedemann College of Business fif-teenth in the nation and second in the state.

The college is ranked first in the state for the online MBA for veterans.

BestSchools.org also ranked the college earlier this year, naming it No. 34 among their 50 best online MBA programs.

The website claims the program has "…an em-phasis on strategic-thinking and analytical skills, prepares students for leadership roles with an appreciation of social stewardship and sustainability."

Information from this report was gathered from USFSP's website.

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**Nationally Ranked:** This month, USF St. Petersburg ranked a No. 24 ranking among Southern Regional Public universities from major media organization U.S. News & World Report, known for their best college ranking list.
“Paper Boi, Paper Boi, all about that paper, boy.”

These words repeat over and over through the first episode of “Atlanta,” a TV show written and produced by Donald Glover.

The generic, absurd rap song is the point of connection for the characters in the show, which satirizes the Atlanta rap scene.

FX Networks and Glover, who raps under the name Childish Gambino, have been working on the show for years. It was finally given a release date in July.

Before its debut, the storyline of “Atlanta” was virtually unknown.

Over the past couple of months there has been a lot of hype about the show, with only a little bit of information surrounding the plot.

Teasers that advertised the show only featured aerial views of the city and short snippets of the characters doing everyday things, like walking down the street.

The show premiered Sept. 6 and did not disappoint. In fact, it exceeded expectations.

“Atlanta” set a record as the most-viewed comedy show since “Inside Amy Schumer” premiered in 2013.

Glover plays Earnest Marks, or Earn as everyone calls him.

Earn, a Princeton University dropout, lives with his girlfriend and baby daughter, but only because it’s the last place he can stay. He asks for money so often that his parents won’t even let him in their home.

He’s a familiar kind of college-student broke, the kind of broke that only has enough money for a kid’s meal, the kind of broke where you order a cup of water and fill it with soda.

Glover has intricate knowledge of how to create a parody about the entertainment industry considering he wrote for the hit show “30 Rock” and starred in NBC’s “Community” for five seasons.

Glover grew up in Atlanta, Georgia and has been creating rap music since 2008 as Childish Gambino. His experience gives him insight into what it takes to become a rapper and the people you meet along the way.

Although Glover is both a rapper and from Atlanta, the show is not autobiographical at all. He plays a completely fictional character which is an important distinction to make. In fact, “Atlanta” can be thought of as a gritty satire that pokes fun at making it big in a competitive industry.

“Atlanta” starts when Earn learns that his cousin Alfred is a popular musician in the Atlanta scene who goes by the rapper name Paper Boi. Earn sets out to become his manager, convinced that he can make both of them rich.

Watching Earn struggle to prove he can be a manager, son, boyfriend and father to his young daughter is a journey. The pilot episode ends with a gunshot cliffhanger, prompting viewers to continue the series as soon as possible.

Even within the first episode, there are a lot of ups and downs. By the end of it you find yourself hoping that Earn is wrong in his belief that some people are just meant to lose.

While the show takes a stern look at what it means to be a rapper in Atlanta, there are certainly a generous amount of scenes meant to lighten the tone. The show strikes a balance between the two.

“Atlanta” retains the comedic element that Glover is known for. He doesn’t quite play the same goofy character as he did in “Community,” but Earn manages to keep the same comical demeanor that made Glover famous.

Earn is often making his girlfriend smile no matter how mad he made her or how badly he messed up.

“Atlanta’s” soundtrack is another notable aspect of the show. It features popular rappers such as Migos, Kodak Black, Yo Gotti, Young Thug and more.

In reality, the city of Atlanta’s rap scene served as the jumping-off point for many successful rappers including 2 Chainz, Lil Yachty and Gucci Mane.

There are not a lot of TV shows out now like Atlanta. It has the right mix of humor and drama, the cast is great a solid soundtrack complements each episode. Glover holds a mirror up to the complex and comedic world of rap, and we’re all the better for it.

You can tune into “Atlanta” on Tuesdays at 10 p.m. on FX.
Questions Linger

“I think more funding needs to be focused on this. It feels like it just happened, and we accepted it.”

- Victoria Warner, Environmental Policy Major

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Sewage Dump Hinders Bayfront Learning

For Kathy Carvalho-Knighton, Bayboro Harbor is more than just a body of water. “This water is my classroom,” said Carvalho-Knighton, an environmental policy and science professor.

Now, Carvalho-Knighton’s classroom is polluted with approximately 151 million gallons of sewage. While she used to use Fort DeSoto Beach to teach students, Carvalho-Knighton has found that using the environment surrounding the university connected with Bulls more. She said that the bayfront view is part of what draws people to USFSP.

“In the past, Carvalho-Knighton has shown her students how to test the water quality. I’ve taken my students to kayak down to Lassing Park multiple times,” she said.

At Lassing Park, the class collected water samples to test for E. coli, nitrates and the pH of the water. Students also learned how to identify aquatic plants and wildlife.

“This gives me an idea,” said Carvalho-Knighton. “I’ll have my students test the water next week before we go out in the kayaks.”

Chief Wastewater Plant Operator asks for whistleblower status

Craven R. Askew is the chief plant operator of the city’s Northeast wastewater treatment facility. On Friday, Askew sought whistleblower status after writing an 11-page letter to Mayor Rick Kriseman about the spread of sewage dumping at the city’s Albert Whitted wastewater treatment facility.

Askew stated that city council members and key staffers knew that sewage spillage and dumps were possible if it closed that facility, whose burden was then directed towards the Southwest plant.

Since closing Albert Whitted in 2015, the city has dumped over 190 million gallons of sewage. “[The] Albert Whitted plant needs to be placed back into service until [Southwest] completes the required upgrades for the sake of Public Health and Environmental impact of sewage spills,” Askew wrote.

“We are the stewards of our environment,” Askew said, later that Friday, during a tour of the Northeast Plant with the Crow’s Nest.

Askew explained that each of the four facilities has a role in the city’s wastewater system, and the Northeast plant is responsible for treating sewage from the South, Southwest and Northeast plants.

In our conversation earlier this week, the Crow’s Nest asked Askew what his next steps might be if the city continues to dump sewage.

“I have a lot of concerns about how this has been handled. A lot of the city staff are getting ready to face the public,” Askew said. “I don’t want to be a part of it.”
about the closing of the Albert Whitted facility.

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Askew explained that each of the four facilities serve the same purpose, to filter wastewater into reclaimed water, but all adhere to different parameters.

"Shutting down one of them hurt us," said Askew. "We should use our money wisely but public safety comes first."

The Northeast plant is the only wastewater facility that did not have to dump sewage after Hurricane Hermine.

City Checks for Contaminants

Zach Gagnon collects water samples across St. Petersburg every morning. He is an environmental specialist working for the city.

Gagnon works for the environmental compliance department. They collect water data to help city officials make decisions in regard to water treatment.

"We can’t be proactive in this department," Gagnon said. "I mean we can only go in after the fact."

Friday, Sept. 16, Gagnon is scheduled to visit the Northeast Wastewater Treatment facility.

Gagnon said that he enjoys his work.

"I really enjoy educating people about this stuff," Gagnon said. "My friends call me the water guy."

People call the Water Resource department asking about the drinking water, Gagnon said.

"The drinking water is a completely separate system," said Gagnon. "Two have no overlap at all."

Gagnon said that his department does a variety tests on the water, but checks for fecal coliform, a bacteria found in mammals’ waste, and high nitrates, an excess nutrient that helps produce algal blooms.

There is a certain amount of these byproducts that are in the water at any time, but with the influx of sewage, beaches and other water sources have been at risk of being closed to the public.

The city adheres to the Beaches Environmental Assessment Clean Water Act, which requires data to be sent to the Environmental Protection Agency to determine the health risk of surrounding beaches.

Testing the water is vital to understanding the environmental impact of the spill, said Gagnon.

"You adhere to a high degree of ethics in this field," Gagnon said. "It’s better to be honest about mistakes or accidents. If you don’t, the problem will get that much worse."

Student Reaches Out For Sustainable Solution

Gabby Thornton is a USFSP senior majoring in environmental science and policy. Her focus, development of sustainable technology, has led her to consider ways to help the situation. For her, this issue is critical.

"If we lose access to the bay in our own backyard, then we lose credibility as a department," Thornton said. "The Bayboro Harbor is an iconic piece of USFSP."

Thornton has plans to meet with university heads and community leaders in the innovation district to discuss a connection between Albert Whitted wastewater facility and the university.

"As a student at this university, as a champion of the environment and as a citizen of St. Petersburg, I feel it’s my duty to help," Thornton said.
The Inevitable Death of the Headphone Jack

By Ryan Callihan
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Apple announced its latest product, the iPhone 7 and the iPhone 7 Plus, to much fanfare on Sept. 7.

The new upgrades are mostly internal, but there’s one serious external change. There’s no headphone jack.

So, there’s one huge problem for most users: It’s no longer possible to charge the phone and listen to music at the same time.

Stripping a product of a port that every model before it has had is user-hostile and bound to cause complaints.

Even without a headphone jack, there are still a few possible methods. If from the iPhone 7 owners can listen to music. If people want to use an older pair of headphones, they can plug into an adapter included with the iPhone 7. The adapter plugs into the Lightning port on one end and turns into a headphone jack on the other.

The included Apple headphones that plug directly into the Lightning port are another option. There are other Lightning headphones on the market as well.

But neither of those options solves the charging issue.

What if you want to go on a long road trip? That’ll require some tunes to keep you awake and a charger to keep your iPhone 7 alive. Unless you use Bluetooth, you’ll need to make a decision:

Apple says the future is wireless and they’re right. The only problem is that we’re stuck in the present.

Bluetooth has been around for years, of course, but now Apple is pushing us to use it as our primary means of listening.

A perfect example of this are the new, wireless $160 AirPods that it recently introduced.

They’re fancy. They’re futuristic. And they’re prone to get lost.

Apple’s stance is that it’s high time for Bluetooth to improve. Whenever an industry leader like Apple makes such a change, it places a responsibility on others to react. You can expect to see the prices of Bluetooth headphones drop to the quality to rise as companies compete for the new iPhone 7 demographic.

“Bluetooth used to be the more luxurious option. Now, Apple, being the luxury brand that it is, has made Bluetooth one of the only feasible choices.

Statistically, Turner’s punishment was harsher than most rapists will ever see.

Approximately two out of three rape incidents go unreported, according to The Rape Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN). Not only this, but for every 1,000 instances of rape, only 13 cases will be referred to a prosecutor. Only 7 cases will actually lead to a felony conviction.

I will never understand why we place such little faith in men. Men are not stupid. They know right from wrong; they know the word “no.”

A rapist chooses to ignore these things.

While all this may sound disheartening, I don’t want to mislead you. Sometimes there is justice.

If they can’t consent, it’s rape. Not only did Turner rape an unconscious woman, but he committed murder.

The word you’re looking for is “assault,” you are not alone.

If you are a survivor of sexual assault, please utilize the resources around you.

Mandy Hines is the USF St. Petersburg victim advocate. She is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

To contact Hines, call (727) 698-2079 and identify yourself as a USFSP student.

The cage is where he remained and the judge provided a sentence to lessen the “severe impact” of jail time. Turner only served three months of his six-month sentence.

Then, he got out of said sentence early. And he still hasn’t taken responsibility for his actions.

Turner failed to make a statement where he doesn’t blame alcohol as the underlying cause for the rape.
Corrections:
Professor Researches Effects Of BP Oil Spill in Gulf: The caption under the picture miss-identified the people in the photo. Dr. Heather Judkins was on the left and Dr. Jon Moore on the right.

We’d Love to Hear from You
The Crow’s Nest accepts letters to the editor. All submissions should be no more than 250 words. Writers must include their full name. In addition, USF faculty should include their title, department and extension. All letters are subject to editing for clarity and length. Letters can be sent to drdorodriguez7@mail.usf.edu with subject title “letter to the editor.”

Corrections:
Professor Researches Effects Of BP Oil Spill in Gulf: The caption under the picture mis-identified the people in the photo. Dr. Heather Judkins was on the left and Dr. Jon Moore on the right.
Rowdies Win, Donate Money to Childhood Cancer

By Ryan Callihan
ryancallihan@mail.usf.edu

Childhood leukemia survivor Marissa Peddie stood in front of over 6,000 fans at Al Lang Stadium to sing the national anthem on Saturday.

Peddie, 11, sang as part of the Tampa Bay Rowdies’ Go Gold night in support of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

As part of Go Gold, Rowdies team owner Bill Edwards pledged to donate money to Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital if there was a sellout crowd or a Rowdies win. Midfielder Joe Cole agreed to donate $1,000 for every goal the Rowdies scored.

By the end of the night, a Rowdies 1-0 win over the Carolina RailHawks granted All Children’s a total of $16,000. While the crowd wasn’t a full sellout, Edwards donated the promised $10,000 anyway.

Even though Childhood Cancer Awareness Month ends at the end of September, the Rowdies will extend the same donation offer to each of their four remaining home games this season.

The RailHawks and the Rowdies are two of the eight North American Soccer League teams that are supporting the Go Gold cause.

Historically, the Rowdies have struggled against the RailHawks, winning only five games against them in 24 seasons.

Before Saturday night’s victory, the Rowdies had not won a game against Carolina in 2016, losing by a combined score of 7-2. Three of Carolina’s points in those matches came from penalty shots, so it was crucial for the Rowdies to avoid costly foul trouble.

Both teams struggled offensive-ly in their previous matches and failed to score a goal. From start to finish, Tampa Bay played a focused game and dominated offensive possession. The Rowdies took 12 shots in the first half and limited the RailHawks to just five shots.

Carolina midfielder Nazmi Albadawi leads the NASL in assists, but was unable to demonstrate his ability. He was restricted to one assist on a shot that was saved by Rowdies goalkeeper Matt Pickens. Pickens recorded his eighth clean sheet of the season.

The only goal of the night came from a Darnell King assist 22 minutes into the match. He dribbled quickly toward the goal, drawing three defenders onto him. The RailHawks, anxious to cover King, left a huge hole in their defense and midfielder Eric Avila scored on King’s pass from about 6 yards out.

“We can’t rest,” said Rowdies head coach Stuart Campbell during a halftime interview.

While the Rowdies certainly didn’t rest in the second half of the game, it was played at a much slower pace than the first. The Rowdies only had four shots in the second half and the RailHawks were limited to just one.

Saturday’s win awarded the Rowdies with three points in the NASL standings. They were aided by Miami FC and Minnesota United FC losses. The Rowdies are now only four points away from the fourth place spot.

The Rowdies have eight games left before the end of the season and still need to climb two spots to enter the four-team NASL Championship. All four of the Rowdies’ home games are crucial, as those four teams all currently have more NASL points than the Rowdies.

Tampa Bay will take travel to take on the Fort Lauderdale Strikers next Saturday.

USF St. Petersburg students can purchase Tampa Bay Rowdies home game tickets for $10 each.

Come Get Rowdy With The Rowdies!
Upcoming Season Home Games:

VS. Miami Football Club - October 1
VS. Minnesota United Football Club - October 5
VS. Indy Eleven - October 19
VS. Ottawa Fury Football Club - October 22

Photos by Nicole Carroll | The Crow’s Nest