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20 Held Over St. Pete Brawl

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Twenty people, including eight Azeri natives, were detained in St. Petersburg over a late Sunday brawl allegedly involving Russian and Caucasus football fans, news reports said.

An unidentified drunken 21-year-old man, allegedly a participant in the fight, was hospitalized with stab wounds to the chest and stomach, Interfax said.

St. Petersburg police said they prevented a mass brawl, but Radio Liberty said some 50 people clashed in the Kupchino district before policemen intervened.

The Fontanka.ru news web site said the fighters were supporters of Azeri Inter and St. Petersburg's Zenit football clubs, which played in the city on Saturday. The reserve squad played for Zenit, allowing Inter to win 5:0. ⊠

(MT)

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